

FBIS

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REPORTAGE ON OPPOSITION PARTIES TALKS IN MOSCOW

Ponomarev on Gromyko Visit

OW170051 Tokyo KYODO in English 0046 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 17 KYODO -- Boris Ponomarev, alternate Politburo member of the Soviet Communist Party, Friday showed a more positive Soviet attitude than ever on the long-standing Japanese hope for Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's visit to Japan. But, whether his remark will lead to an early Japan visit by Gromyko is still unclear.

Ponomarev had talks with a delegation of four Japanese opposition political parties and the Japanese Confederation of Labor (Domei) here for about two hours and 20 minutes. Asked by the Japanese, he said Foreign Minister Gromyko has an intention to visit Japan, delegation sources said. In principle, Gromyko's future visit is clear and now is the stage to study technically how to materialize it, Ponomarev told the delegation. He said Gromyko's visit would be useful and significant for mutual exchange between the two countries. If some concrete, fruitful outcome can be expected from his visit, it would be better, the Soviet party official said.

Ponomarev restated the unchanged Soviet position on the Japanese demand for return of four Soviet-held islands east of Hokkaido, the sources said.

The Soviet position is that no territorial problem between the two countries exists, he said. Delegation chief Ryosaku Sasaki, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party, said that the two countries should begin negotiations toward a peace treaty, but that they cannot leave the territorial issue out of the negotiations. The islands claimed by Japan were occupied by the Soviet Union after World War II.

Ponomarev blamed the United States for a lack of progress in arms reduction talks between the Soviet Union and the U.S. Though any Soviet-U.S. summit is significant, reopening the Geneva talks without any result in sight would deceive the peoples of the world, he said.

Asked about dissident Soviet Physicist Andrey D. Sakharov and his wife, Ponomarev replied that both are in good health and living 300 kilometers away from Moscow, where Sakharov is treated as an academy member, he said. On the Korean problem, Ponomarev said his country supports the Pyongyang proposal for talks among the two Koreas and the United States.

Agreement on Peace Institute

OW180454 Tokyo KYODO in English 0428 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 17 KYODO -- Leaders of four Japanese opposition parties and a major labor organization agreed here Saturday to establish an institute on peace studies after talks with Soviet Government and Communist Party officials. The officials from Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), the New Liberal Club (NLC), the United Social Democratic Party (USDP) and the Japanese Confederation of Labor (DOMEI) have been here at the invitation of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) for a five-day visit ending Sunday. During talks with Soviet officials, members of the Japanese delegation, led by DSP Chairman Ryosaku Sasaki, took up nuclear arms disarmament as a major topic for discussion and urged the Soviet Union and the United States to resume their dialogue.

The Soviet officials the Japanese delegates met in Moscow included alternate party Politburo Member Boris Ponomarev. Disclosing that Soviet officials basically agreed with the proposal for resumption of nuclear arms talks, a delegation spokesman said the Japanese group contributed to promoting U.S.-Soviet peace negotiations. The leaders of the four moderate opposition parties and Domei, the second largest labor organization in Japan, agreed to establish the institute as a gesture to play a leading role in the peace movement in Japan, according to the spokesman.

He said the four political parties and Domei also agreed to meet regularly to discuss their closer cooperation in political reforms and national elections. Other Japanese delegates included Komeito Vice Chairman Yoshiyuki Asai, NLC Diet Policy Committee Chairman Kosuke Ito, USDP Chairman Hideo Den and Domei President Tadanobu Usami.

Group Ends Visit

OW190143 Tokyo KYODO in English 0133 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 19 KYODO -- A group of Japanese centrist party and union leaders ends a five-day visit to Moscow Monday with guarded optimism about a resumption of nuclear arms control talks between the United States and the Soviet Union. "The result of the visit has been very positive," said mission leader Ryosaku Sasaki in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

The mission, consisting of leaders from four centrist opposition parties and a trade union organization, has held a series of talks with Soviet Government and party leaders in a bid to urge the Soviet to resume a dialogue with Washington. Sasaki, chairman of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), said the visit left him with the impression that there will be a strong possibility for the United States and the Soviet Union to return to the negotiating table. He said his party will continue to press for nuclear arms control, and take the initiative to keep up the antinuclear campaign in Japan. Also, he said, as the only atom-bombed nation in the world, Japan has the right and duty to stand in the forefront of an international antinuclear movement.

Turning to bilateral relations, Sasaki said he felt encouraged by the Soviet response to Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko's possible visit to Japan. Soviet officials "have made it clear that Foreign Minister Gromyko's visit is on the agenda, and this is quite something," he said. Sasaki, however, admitted Soviet officials have stuck to the position on territorial dispute with Japan on the "northern territories" -- which Japan views as the biggest issue dividing the two countries.

On Sunday, Sasaki told a news conference that the DSP plans to unite with the centrist opposition parties for a future coalition government with the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party.

USSR TO RELEASE DETAINED FISHERMEN 23 NOV

OW181031 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 18 KYODO -- The Soviet Union has told the Japanese Embassy in Moscow it will release five fishermen next Friday who were seized last year for apparently trespassing into Soviet territorial waters, according to embassy officials.

To be freed in the Far Eastern Soviet town of Khabarovsk and Shoichi Uchizawa of the No 18 Shoryo Maru caught August 5, 1983; Takumi Hirano and Shichiro Takahashi of the No 82 Myoken Maru seized August 28; and Koji Nakamura and Takayuki Narumi of the No 15 Seiei Maru seized September 28. They will fly to Niigata, northern Japan, by Soviet plane immediately after release. The pending release was first indicated by Soviet Communist Party Politburo member Dinmukhamed Kunayev in October when he visited Tokyo at the head of a parliamentary delegation.

GROMYKO WRITES FOREWORD FOR SPEECH COLLECTION

OW171227 Tokyo KYODO in English 1215 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 17 KYODO -- Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko said in a message to Japanese readers of his book that the Soviet Union wants its relations with Japan to always be open to improvement. In the foreword to the "Foreign Policy of the Soviet Union," a collection of his speeches, Gromyko said Moscow still maintains the policy of expanding relations with Japan based on principles of mutual respect, equality and non-interference. Only a good neighborly policy can be in the interest of the peoples of both countries and contribute to peace throughout Asia, he said.

Gromyko said Japan-Soviet relations had been hindered in recent years. To mend this situation, the party Politburo member suggested the two countries conclude a treaty of neighborly cooperation. The treaty has been proposed for a long time, but Japan is opposed to it on the ground that the two countries should first conclude a peace treaty by solving territorial issues involving four Soviet-held northern islands.

The Soviet foreign minister further suggested that Japan and the Soviet Union conclude another treaty on long-term economic cooperation. He said both countries are capable of cooperating with each other in contributing toward the strengthening of world peace.

Commenting on the message, Foreign Ministry officials here said they did not see any basic change in Soviet foreign policies toward Japan. But they said the Gromyko's stance toward promoting dialogue with Japan in order to reach a breakthrough [in the] cooled bilateral relations should be given due appraisal.

REAGAN AIDE MEETS LDP GENERAL SECRETARY KANEMARU

OW191227 Tokyo KYODO in English 1220 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 19 KYODO -- U.S. Presidential Assistant Gaston Sigur and Liberal-Democratic Party Secretary General Shin Kanemaru agreed Monday on efforts to settle trade disputes, party officials said. Sigur and Kanemaru shared perception that a spirit of mutual concessions is necessary to end the disputes stemming from Japan's huge trade surpluses. Japan's trade surplus with the United States came to 18.2 billion dollars in 1983 and is expected to reach 30 billion dollars this year.

Kanemaru told Sigur that the Japanese-U.S. relationship is the most important bilateral one both for Washington and Tokyo. Replying to Sigur's questions about Japan's defense budget for fiscal 1985, Kanemaru answered Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone will decide after studying all data and public opinion, the officials said.

The Defense Agency is asking for 3,140 billion yen (12.9 billion dollars), up 7 percent, for defense spending for fiscal 1985 starting next April. The presidential assistant on national security affairs met Nakasone last Wednesday and welcomed his plan to visit the United States in January for talks with President Reagan.

U.S. TRADE DELEGATION ASKS FOR TARIFF CUTS

OW170803 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 17 KYODO -- The United States asked Japan Saturday to lower or abolish import tariffs on wooden products and other commodities but failed to obtain a favorable Japanese response. The request was made by Clyde Prestowitz, council for the secretary of commerce, and Peter Murphy, assistant U.S. trade representative, when they met with Naomichi Suzuki, deputy director general of the International Trade Policy Bureau of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), and other MITI officials. The U.S. officials are visiting Japan for informal talks on Japan-U.S. economic relations after the U.S. presidential election on November 6.

Referring to a still-expanding U.S. trade deficit with Japan, the American officials said Japan should positively study whether it can lower or completely abolish import tariffs to help increase American exports to the Japanese market. They said they wanted this on such items as wooden products, aluminum goods, paper goods, computer-related items, auto parts, petrochemicals, black-and-white photo films and leather goods.

The Japanese officials replied it is extremely difficult to comply with the U.S. request, pointing out that the Japanese Government already decided to lower import tariffs on a number of commodities last April. Touching on the problem of protecting the rights of computer software developers, the American officials said there has been no change in the U.S. position that the rights should be protected only under the copyright law. There have been moves in Japan to institute a special legislation for protection of such rights. They said Japan should pay due attention to the U.S. position. The Japanese officials replied that the Tokyo government is ready to discuss the question with Washington whenever there is such necessity.

The MITI officials expressed concern that the new U.S. trade act, enforced early this month, may give impetus to protectionism in the United States, depending on its execution. The American officials replied they were fully aware of such Japanese concern. The Japanese officials also said Tokyo is concerned about U.S. moves to tighten country-of-origin requirements on imported textile products and iron and steel pipe and tube. The U.S. officials promised to study the matter by fully taking the Japanese position into consideration.

EC ASKS JAPAN TO REDUCE VTR EXPORTS 'SHARPLY'

OW170402 Tokyo KYODO in English 0343 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Nov. 17 KYODO -- The European Community (EC) has asked Japan to sharply reduce its 1985 exports of videotape recorders (VTR's), government sources said Saturday. The sources refused to give details of the EC Commission's request, but indicated that the reduction sought would be more than 1 million sets, about 25 percent of Japan's 1984 voluntary export restraint target of 3.95 million sets. This EC Commission request follows the agreement in October between Hikosaburo Okonogi, then minister of international trade and industry, and Etienne Davignon, EC Commission vice president for industrial affairs, that Japan would reduce VTR exports to the EC.

The EC Commission and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) are expected to meet early in December for talks on the 1985 restraint ceiling, the sources said, adding the Japan would reject the EC request for a reduction of more than 1 million sets, claiming that this would be ruinous for Japanese manufacturers.

Under an agreement with the EC, Japan promised to limit its VTR exports to the EC over a three-year period which began in 1983. Following consultations with the EC in November last year, Japan set the 1984 voluntary export ceiling for finished VTR's at 3.95 million sets, the same as for 1983. The 1984 ceiling for semifinished VTR products was set at 1.1 million units, up 500,000 units from the 1983 ceiling.

DIETMAN RESIGNS FROM JSP POSTS TO VISIT SEOUL

OW170352 Tokyo KYODO in English 0300 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 17 KYODO -- Susumu Kobayashi, Socialist member of the lower house, will join a group of Socialist ex-Diet members who will visit South Korea on Monday in spite of a party leadership request that they delay the visit. Kobayashi has submitted a letter of resignation from his party posts to Makoto Tanabe, secretary general of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), in order to visit Seoul as an "individual," according to party sources. Kobayashi was chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee and of the foreign affairs council of the party.

Earlier, Koichi Yamamoto, former party secretary general, and three other former Diet representatives of the country's largest opposition party announced they would leave for Seoul on Monday. The JSP leadership had asked the group to delay the visit because the party has not completed a review of its Korean policy. But Yamamoto and his group refused to wait and the leadership said later that if they visited Seoul, they should go as "individuals."

The party's Korean policy calls for strong friendship with North Korea, but there has recently been a call in the party for a review of the policy, which forbids official visits by party members to South Korea. The government has diplomatic relations with South Korea, but not with the North.

SHINTARO ABE VISITS ZAMBIA, TANZANIA, EGYPT

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe to Zambia, Tanzania, and Egypt, including his meetings with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda and Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Marian, see the 19 November issue of the Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BORDER TALKS WITH USSR CLOSE IN PYONGYANG

SK182330 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2309 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 19 (KCNA) -- Talks on the border question between the government of the DPRK and the USSR closed with success in Pyongyang. The two sides reached a complete consensus on all questions taken up. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the successful conclusion of the talks in a friendly atmosphere.

SOVIET MEDIA REPORT NORTH-SOUTH ECONOMIC TALKS

SK190921 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Soviet dailies and its news agency reported the holding of the first North-South economic talks. Under the title: "Talks Were Held," the 16 November issue of PRAVDA reported that talks between the delegations of the DPRK and South Korea were held in Panmunjom on 15 November and noted that the question of realizing collaboration and exchange in the economic field between the North and the South was discussed at the talks. The paper wrote that both sides presented their opinions regarding cooperation in the economic field. The paper noted that it was agreed to continue talks and to hold the next round of talks on 5 December. The paper added that, after the talks, Yi Song-nok, vice minister of foreign trade, held a press conference. TASS carried a news on the holding of North-South economic talks on 15 November.

USSR AWARDS ORDER OF HONOR TO DPRK CITIZEN

SK181019 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0840 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow November 16 (KCNA) -- T.Kh. Koshoyev, vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, awarded an order of honor to DPRK citizen Yi Yong-ho in the Kremlin in Moscow on November 15, TASS news agency reported. T.Kh. Koshoyev warmly congratulated Yi Yong-ho who was cited for the bravery and self-sacrificing spirit he displayed in saving Soviet locomotive workteam members when there was a flood at a section on the Baikal-Amur trunk line. Yi Yong-ho expressed deep thanks to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government for awarding him high decoration and said he would repay this praise by working harder for the strengthening of the Korean-Soviet friendship.

CZECHOSLOVAK HEAD MEETS KONG CHIN-TAE-LED GROUP

SK162351 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2317 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal on November 13 met the Korean Government delegation headed by Vice-Premier Kong Chin-tae. The premier asked the head of the delegation to convey the warm greetings of President Gustav Husak to President Kim Il-song. The talk took place in a friendly atmosphere.

RADIO BROADCASTING PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH HUNGARY

SK162352 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2318 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- A protocol on cooperation in radio broadcasting for 1985-1987 was signed on November 16 in Pyongyang between the DPRK Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee and Hungarian Radio.

Present at the signing ceremony on our side were Chu Chang-chun, chairman, and Yi Chong-nam, vice-chairman, of the DPRK Radio and Television Broadcasting Committee, and on the opposite side were members of the Hungarian Radio Broadcasting delegation headed by Docz Jozsef, vice-chairman of Hungarian Radio, and Janos, Taraba Hungarian ambassador to Korea. The protocol was signed by Yi Chong-nam and Dicz Jozsef.

YIM CHUN-CHU MEETS HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR

SK190245 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 16 (KCNA) -- Vice-President Yim Chun-chu on November 15 met and had a talk with Janos Taraba, Hungarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea, when he paid a courtesy call on him. Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Chae-suk was on hand.

KANG SONG-SAN GREETES YUGOSLAV COUNTERPART

SK182303 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2307 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 19 (KCNA) -- Premier Kang Song-san sent a message of greetings to Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, on the latter's 60th birthday. The message heartily wishes the president great success in her responsible work for the socialist development of the country and health and happiness.

PRC REPORTS ECONOMIC TALKS BETWEEN NORTH, SOUTH

SK190919 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Chinese papers, news agency, and broadcasts reported the holding of the first North-South economic talks. Carrying the contents of remarks made by the chief delegate of our side at the talks, the 16 November issue of RENMIN RIBAO noted that he stressed the significance of the economic talks and it introduced in detail our side's proposals concerning North-South economic collaboration and exchange. The 17 November issue of the paper also carried a commentary entitled: "An Excellent Start." In the meantime, the 17 November issue of BEIJING RIBAO reported the holding of the economic talks, under the title: "The First Discussion About Economic Collaboration in 39 years -- the North and South of Korea Held Economic Talks"; the 17 November issue of JIEFANGJUN BAO reported the news, under the title: "The North and South of Korea Held the First Economic Talks in 39 Years"; and the 16 November issue of JEIFANG RIBAO reported the holding of the conomic talks.

XINHUA NEWS AGENCY on 15 November and Beijing radio 16 November reported the news on the holding of the first North-South economic talks. In connection with the holding of the first North-South economic talks, on 15 November, XINHUA NEWS AGENCY carried an article entitled: "An Encouraging Measure."

VRPR DENOUNCES CHON'S MEETING WITH MELVIN PRICE

SK181104 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, I will talk about absurd remarks which traitor Chon Tu-hwan made at a meeting with the chairman of the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

On 14 November, Chon Tu-hwan met Melvin Price, chairman of the U.S. House Armed Services Committee, and flattered his master, saying that the South Korean-U.S. relations are at the highest level of satisfaction and the United States is the closest friendly country. Furthermore, he begged for the augmentation of the military capabilities of the U.S. troops in South Korea and the South Korean Army. This is a dirty act revealing his sordid nature as the war executor of the U.S. aggressors.

While our fellow countrymen were focusing their attention on North-South economic talks and Red Cross talks through which a new breakthrough for North-South collaboration and exchange can be made, Chon Tu-hwan, running counter to this, babbled about the augmentation of the military capabilities of the U.S. troops in South Korea and the South Korean Army by clinging to the sleeve of the U.S. master. This is an intolerable challenge to the masses at home and abroad who aspire for peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula.

As is known, with the North's relief step for our flood victims as an occasion, North-South economic talks will be held, moves to hold talks to realize collaboration and exchange in each field, including the fields of culture and sports, are being witnessed, and an atmosphere for reunification is growing even further. This can be viewed as bearing epochal significance in easing tension on the Korean peninsula and in creating a new atmosphere on the road of reunification.

A broad range of the international community, not to speak of our masses, is carefully watching a series of events which have recently taken place between the North and the South and hopes that the events will be successfully concluded at the earliest possible date and peace and peaceful reunification on the Korean peninsula will be achieved.

At this very moment, traitor Chon Tu-hwan met the U.S. master and begged for increasing the military capabilities of the U.S. troops in South Korea and the South Korean Army. This clearly shows that, while paying lip service to dialogue and reunification, he, indeed, seeks war and division.

Recently, traitor Chon Tu-hwan has incited confrontation of power and war zeal, clamoring about a perfect posture or preparedness for war while frequently going around front-line areas along the truce line, and has been hellbent on a war exercise for northward invasion by mobilizing regular and non-regular Armed Forces.

It is no secret that the Chon Tu-hwan ring earmarked for direct military expenditure this year some 3.82 trillion won, about 374 billion won more than the figure of the previous fiscal year, and has accelerated the augmentation of Armed Forces and war preparations.

How fanatically the Chon Tu-hwan ring is heating up in preparing war is nakedly shown by its enactment of the enforcement ordinance of the law on resources management to counter an emergency--virtually an all-out wartime mobilization ordinance to commandeer and mobilize the human and material resources of South Korea in a so-called emergency for combat operations -- and began setting it in motion.

All these facts clearly confirm that the Chon Tu-hwan ring is a group of war maniacs who are accelerating war preparations and deliberately aggravating the situation under the support of the United States, and a group of splittists who are throwing a cold blanket over North-South dialogue and the road of reunification.

Chon Tu-hwan recently begged for the augmentation of the U.S. troops in South Korea and the South Korean Armed Forces. This further exposes his nature as a war maniac and splittist.

Our masses will not tolerate the Chon Tu-hwan ring's act of trying to accelerate war preparations for northward invasion and to perpetuate division at the instigation of the U.S. aggressors.

The U.S. imperialists should no longer instigate the Chon Tu-hwan ring to war preparations for northward invasion and should withdraw from this land without delay, taking along the U.S. troops in South Korea and the nuclear weapons.

SOUTH'S 'CIVILIAN DEFENSE DRILL' DECRIED

SK162354 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2320 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- The Chon Tu-hwan military fascist junta staged "civilian defence drills" all over South Korea on the morning of November 15 to fan up a war fever at a time when the North-South economic talks, the first of its kind in history, was in full swing in Panmunjom, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The fascist clique herded out "homeland defence reserve forces" and "civilian defence forces" and large numbers of inhabitants to war exercises raising a hue and cry over "enemy infiltration" and "bomb attack." Large-scale "demonstration exercises" were also undertaken at puppet government offices of different levels.

The fascist junta's hysteria is indicative of their desperate efforts to divert elsewhere the peoples attention rivetted on Panmunjom, the venue of the economic talks, and throw a wet blanket on the talks.

SOUTH TO PUNISH STUDENT DJP OFFICE INTRUDERS

SK162358 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2323 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Having the office of the "Democratic Justice Party" occupied, the Chon Tu-hwan puppet junta called an "extraordinary general meeting of DJP members" early in the morning of the 15th at which they issued a "statement" dismissing the courageous action of the patriotic students "thoughtless" and threatening and blackmailing them for alleged violation of "law and order," according to a radio report from Seoul. This once again clearly proves that the "DJP" is a gang of fascist gangsters engrossed in anti-national moves as a tool in the service of the puppet traitor.

As already reported, the students occupied the office of the "DJP", the self-proclaimed political party of the traitor, and fought to have a 15 point demand calling for the right to existence and democratic liberty met. However the fascist junta branded the students expression of their just demands as a "thoughtless act" and revealed its intention to repress them at the point of bayonet. This can be done only by such human butchers as the Chon Tu-hwan rabble.

LEAFLETS ON KIM IL-SONG DISTRIBUTED IN SOUTH

SK181006 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0905 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 18 (KCNA) -- Leaflets on the reverence for the great leader President Kim Il-song were recently distributed widely among inhabitants in Songnam, Kyonggi Pro. ince, according to the Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification. The leaflets headlined "President Kim Il-song Is a Peerless Great Man and Sun of the Nation" said the great leader was warmly welcomed everywhere he went in the Soviet Union and European socialist countries. They continued:

As shown by his recent foreign visit, President Kim Il-song is a peerless great man respected by the whole world. It is thanks to President Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation, that the North's prestige is enhanced and the nation's glory is fully demonstrated all over the world. The nation has found its glory and future in President Kim Il-song and in the North under his leadership.

All of us should believe in and follow President Kim Il-song. Only then there will come the country's reunification and a new society where the people will enjoy a happy life.

These leaflets are widely distributed among inhabitants in Karibong-dong, Seoul, and Jlsan, South Kyongsang Province, said the radio.

KIM TAE-CHUNG'S HOMECOMING SAID THREATENED

SK190345 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0330 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 19 (KCNA) -- The South Korean fascist clique declared that they would throw Kim Tae-chung back into prison, if he returned to South Korea according to a KYODO report from Washington. This was disclosed in a letter sent by the puppet ambassador to the United States to a U.S. senator recently.

While staying in the United States, Kim Tae-chung called for the democratisation of the South Korean society on various occasions and expressed many a time his intention to return to South Korea, in spite of the danger to his safety. The fascist clique are attempting to force him to give up the idea of return to South Korea with the threat of reimprisonment.

INDONESIAN PRESIDENT RECEIVES TRADE DELEGATION

SK171037 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Indonesian President Suharto on November 15 met the Minister of Foreign Trade Choe Chong-kun, head of the Korean Government trade delegation. The head of the delegation conveyed cordial regards of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Suharto.

President Suharto expressed deep thanks for this, and asked the head of the delegation to convey his heartfelt greetings to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il. I wholeheartedly wish good health and a long life to His Excellency the great President Kim Il-song and His Excellency dear Kim Chong-il, Suharto said.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. The Korean ambassador to Indonesia was present at the talk.

KIM YONG-MAN MEETS COUNTERPARTS IN ETHIOPIA

SK170353 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0343 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Korean Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam staying in Socialist Ethiopia met and conversed with foreign ministers from Lesotho, Guinea, Zambia, Tunisia, Sao Tome and Principe and Mozambique, Togolese, Niger and Burundi ministers of foreign affairs and cooperation who attended the 20th Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Organisation of African Unity from November 7 to 14.

The foreign ministers from various countries asked the Korean foreign minister to convey the greetings of their heads of state to the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il. They sincerely wished President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and a long life.

There was an exchange of views on expanding and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and African countries, the Non-aligned Movement and South-South cooperation.

Talks With Angolan Leader

SK170348 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0337 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos who attended the 20th Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Organisation of African Unity met Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister of Korea, on November 14 in Addis Ababa. The foreign minister conveyed the cordial regards of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Santos.

The president expressed deep thanks for his and asked the Korean foreign minister to transmit his heartfelt greetings to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

There was an exchange of opinions between the president and the foreign minister on further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, expanding and developing the Non-aligned Movement and realising the South-South cooperation and other issues of common interest and they had the conversation passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Meets Ugandan Minister

SK181010 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 18 (KCNA) -- Korean Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam staying in Socialist Ethiopia on November 14 met and conversed with A. Picho-Owiny, minister of state for foreign affairs of Uganda, who attended the 20th Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Organisation of African Unity.

The Korean foreign minister and the Ugandan minister of state for foreign affairs exchanged opinions on further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, expanding and strengthening the Non-aligned Movement and realising the South-South cooperation and other issues of common interest and had identical views on the problems discussed. The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Benin President Receives Kim

SK170959 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0806 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Benin President Mathieu Kerekou who attended the 20th Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Organisation of African Unity met Kim Yong-nam, vice premier and foreign minister of Korea, in Addis Ababa on November 14. The Korean foreign minister conveyed to the president the cordial regards of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

President Kerekou expressed deep thanks for this and asked the foreign minister to deliver his sincere warm greetings to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il. The president wished the Korean people greater success in their struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and in the socialist construction.

The president and the foreign minister exchanged opinions on further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, expanding and strengthening the Non-aligned Movement and realising the South-South cooperation and on other issues of common interest and reached a unanimity of views on the questions discussed.

The conversation passed a friendly atmosphere.

Congo Leader Meets Kim

SK170921 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0802 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso who attended the 20th Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Organisation of African Unity met Kim Yong-nam, Korean vice-premier and foreign minister, in Addis Ababa on November 14. The Korean foreign minister conveyed the cordial regards of President Kim Il-song to President Nguesso.

The president expressed deep thanks for this and wished President Kim Il-song to enjoy a long and healthy life and make great success in his work for the happiness and prosperity of the Korean people.

There was an exchange of opinions between the president and the foreign minister on further boosting the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, expanding and developing the Non-aligned Movement and realising the South-South cooperation and other issues of common concern and they reached an identity of views on the matters discussed.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

SO YON-SOK SPEAKS AT BANQUET FOR TANZANIAN GROUP

SK160345 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0329 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 16 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea arranged a banquet last evening in honour of the delegation of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania [RPT] headed by A. Shija, member of its Central Committee and secretary of Dar-es-Salaam region committee of the RPT, which arrived here on November 15.

Speaking at the banquet, Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief secretary of the fraternal Tanzanian people have achieved many successes in their struggle to lay the foundation of the self-reliant national economy, under the slogan "Socialism and self-reliance".

Expressing support to the RPT's foreign policy, he noted: Our party and people will as always do their utmost to further consolidate and develop the friendly cooperative relations between our two parties and peoples based on the intimacy between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Julius K. Nyerere.

In his speech A. Shija said he had the pleasure to convey greetings of Julius K. Nyerere, chairman of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania and president of the United Republic of Tanzania, to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He expressed deep thanks to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il for their moral and material aid to Tanzania. He stressed he would learn a lot in the course of the Korean visit to greatly contribute to the building of his country.

The attendants raised glasses to the good health and long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, to the good health and long life of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and to the good health and long life of Comrade Julius K. Nyerere, an outstanding leader of the Tanzanian people.

KANG SONG-SAN RECEIVES CAMEROONIAN DELEGATION

SK170341 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0334 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 17 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, on November 16 met and had a friendly talk with the delegation of the National Union of Cameroon headed by Ebongalame Thomas, member of the Central Committee of the National Union of Cameroon and youth secretary.

Kil Chae-kyong, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee and vice-director of a department of the party Central Committee, was on hand.

MAJOR GENERAL CHOE UL-PONG OBITUARY MADE PUBLIC

SK180948 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0914 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 18 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee and Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea made public an obituary of Comrade Choe Ul-pong on November 17.

The obituary says Choe Ul-pong, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee and major general of the Korean People's Army, died of illness to our sorrow at the age of 51 at 11:20 November 17, 1984.

Serving in the People's Army for many years, he had made a positive contribution to the strengthening of the Revolutionary Armed Forces by carrying out the military line of the party and devoted his all to the defense of the country and people from the invasion of the enemy, the obituary stresses.

KIM IL-SONG WORKS ON JSP'S VISIT PUBLISHED

SK190348 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0333 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 19 (KCNA) -- "On the Visit of a Japan Socialist Party Delegation to Our Country", a collection of works of the great leader President Kim Il-song, was brought out by the Workers' Party of Korea publishing house.

Contained in the book are talks and speeches made by President Kim Il-song when he met the delegation of the Japan Socialist Party headed by Masashi Ishibashi, chairman of its Central Executive Committee, during its Korean visit in September.

The publishing house brought out in booklet "Talk With the Delegation of the Japan Socialist Party", one of the works included in the collection.

President Kim Il-song in the work indicates a fighting strategy and policy for the world people of broad strata to unite closely and remove the danger of a new global war, a nuclear war, and safeguard world peace and security. Putting stress on the need to wage an extensive struggle to establish a nuclear-free, peace zone in Asia in particular, President Kim Il-song specifies the principle of struggle and strategic and tactical policies for safeguarding peace in Asia and the rest of the world involving the struggle against the production of nuclear weapons and their deployment and for a ban on their use and their complete removal and the question of waging an active struggle against the scheme to form an aggressive tripartite military alliance of the United States, Japan and South Korea.

In the work President Kim Il-song clarifies the validity of our party's most reasonable and realistic policies of national reunification including the proposal to hold tripartite talks put forward by us early this year and the question of founding a confederal republic.

President Kim Il-song also lays down our party's principled stand and concrete ways for developing the friendly relations between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

In his works he also gives scientific answers to important theoretical and practical questions arising in the development of our revolution and the world revolution at present, such as the question of safeguarding peace in Asia and the rest of the world against the U.S. imperialists' policy towards aggression and nuclear war and the question of frustrating the "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique and promoting the cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

All the ideas, theories and policies elucidated by President Kim Il-song in the collection of works "On the Visit of a Japan Socialist Party Delegation to Our Country" are an ideological weapon to be tightly held in the struggle for accelerating the cause of independent reunification of Korea and the world revolution and a programmatic guiding compass which marks a new milestone in the development of the friendly relations between the Korean and Japanese peoples.

NORTH OFFERS TO COHOST SOME 1988 OLYMPIC EVENTS

SK190241 Seoul YONHAP in English 0233 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] London, Nov. 18 (OANA-YONHAP) -- In an unprecedented offer made through the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Geneva, North Korea has informally offered to co-host some of the events during the 1988 Olympic Games, THE OBSERVER reported Sunday. The London weekly went on to say that host Seoul demanded in turn that Pyongyang first confirm whether it would participate in the games. Pyongyang responded, however, that it is too early for such a decision but left open the possibility of sending athletes to Seoul or even fielding a joint Korean team.

The paper noted that the olive branch is one of a series of signals that represent one of the best hopes for peace on the peninsula since the Korean war broke out in 1950. The paper said, for fear of losing a propaganda victory over the other side, Seoul and Pyongyang seem to be trying to outdo each other with friendly gestures, and their mutual wariness and suspicion seem ironically to be building a momentum toward peace.

NO TAE-U SENDS LETTER TO N. KOREAN COUNTERPART

SK190812 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0700 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] On 19 November, No Tae-u, chairman of the Korean Amateur Sports Association [KASA], repeatedly urged the North Korean side to hold the fourth round of North-South sports talks sometime next month at the latest.

Today, No Tae-u, KASA chairman, sent Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the North Korean Olympic Committee, a letter in which he called for holding sports talks at an early date to meet the aspirations of the all fellow countrymen for the realization of North-South sports exchanges and for the participation of the North and the South in the Olympics and many international sports events as a single team.

No Tae-u, KASA chairman, reminded the North Korean side that, on 4 November, he sent them a letter expressing his hope for resuming the fourth round of North-South sports talks at an early date and that, on 5 November, he urged them to answer his letter through a telephone notice. He said: I wonder why the North Korean side has not answered my letter yet.

Chairman No Tae-u said: North-South economic talks are in progress to seek common national interests and prosperity, and a preliminary contact for resuming the main North-South Red Cross talks will be made tomorrow. We think that these events are very encouraging, because they will ultimately serve as a foundation for unification by improving North-South relations and by promoting national harmony.

KASA Chairman No Tae-u, stated clearly: Therefore, if our sportsmen make efforts to expand the scope of mutual understanding based on compatriotic love and sportsmanship, there should be no reason for failing to resume North-South sports talks.

This year, the question of forming a single team and participating in various international sports events and the question of realizing sports exchanges were discussed at the three rounds of North-South sports talks held on 9 April, 30 April, and 25 May. However, the fourth round of talks has not been held thus far because the North Korean side sent us a letter on 1 June refusing to hold the fourth round of talks.

PRC SAID 'OPTIMISTIC' ABOUT SEOUL OLYMPICS

SK180246 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] China holds an "affirmative and optimistic" view about the prospects for the 1988 Seoul Olympics, the NAEWOE PRESS reported Friday. Quoting Radio Beijing reports, NAEWOE, Seoul's North Korea watcher, said China may persuade some communist countries to participate in the Seoul Games.

According to the press, Radio Beijing reported in detail the contents of the general conference of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) held in Mexico City earlier this month. Radio Beijing said all 152 delegates at the ANOC meeting agreed to participate in the Summer and Winter Games slated for Seoul and Calgary, Canada, respectively, in 1988.

The Chinese radio also reported ANOC President Mario Vazquez Rana's comment that to respect the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is to promote the Olympic movement.

China has repeatedly reported remarks by IOC officials that "there would not be any change in Seoul's hosting of the 1988 Games" and asserted that it (China) could not even imagine a politically-motivated boycott of the Olympics, NAEWOE said.

CHINA SAID TO ATTEND SEOUL BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

SK190202 Seoul YONHAP in English 0148 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (OANA-YONHAP) -- China will participate in the 21st World Cup Bowling Championships, to be held here next year, a Korean Bowling Association official said Monday, quoting an American businessman who visited China last month on business.

Steven Mella, vice president of American Machinery Foundry Inc., a leading U.S. bowling equipment manufacturer, also visited here November 12-15 on business. He said China has encouraged bowling since the beginning of the year to compete for gold in the 1986 Asian Games as well as to participate in the World Cup Championships slated for November of next year. The Chinese move will provide an opportunity for the increase of sports exchange between China and South Korea, which have no diplomatic ties, the official said.

PAPER VIEWS RECENT CHINA-NORTH KOREA RELATIONS

SK190210 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 18 Nov 84 p 2

[Editorial: "Red China-North Korea Relations and the Korean Peninsula"]

[Text] There is an evident new trend in Red China-North Korea relations these days. Apparently, this is Red China's strong urging of North Korea to follow a pragmatic line and North Korea's acceptance of this to a certain degree.

First of all, this leads us to ponder what caused Red China to make such suggestions to North Korea. As we are all aware, Red China has pushed ahead with modernization in four fields -- agricultural, industrial, scientific, and technological ever since the pragmaticists headed by Deng Xiaoping took power.

Red China remains a "poor, underdeveloped country," having failed to make any economic development under Mao Zedong's equalitarian line, and the pragmatists aim to make Red China as advanced as the Western European countries by the end of the 20th century by successfully implementing a modernization policy, introducing the methods of capitalism. This new approach by Red China has been successful to a considerable degree. Therefore, Red China is urging North Korea, a "fraternal communist party," to learn from its own experience.

Yet, a more important motive for Red China to urge North Korea to adopt a pragmatic line is found elsewhere. As long as North Korea insists on military adventurism against the South, the danger of another war on the Korean peninsula remains great. Because another war on the Korean peninsula would inevitably involve Red China, seriously affecting its progress in modernization, it must feel that it has influenced North Korea to turn away from military adventurism toward pragmatism.

We suppose that Kim Il-song must have gone through a psychological conflict because of Red China's suggestion. North Korea must change its line toward pragmatism to make a breakthrough in its economy. The closed society must be changed into an open system little by little. However, if, North Korea followed such a course, the personal worship of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il could be shaken, resulting in a grave shock to the base of the father-son hereditary system.

We can assume that Red China would have simply understood such anguish by Kim Il-song. It seems that Red China strongly urged North Korea to change toward pragmatism, assuring him that it will not criticize the Kim Il-song-Kim Chong-il hereditary system, putting forward the "principle of noninterference in internal affairs," thus supporting the stability of the hereditary system.

Hence, North Korea was able to find a certain relief in following the Red Chinese example, such as establishing a joint venture law and a "special economic district," with new hope for cooperation with the Western European capitalist countries. However, the West European capitalist countries demanded that North Korea should first begin a North-South dialogue and push ahead with North-South economic cooperation before approaching them. Therefore, North Korea had to respond to the ROK proposal for a North-South dialogue.

Judging from the above, North Korea's ultimate aim in responding to North-South talks is to expand its exchange and cooperation with the Western European capitalist countries. Therefore, we cannot presume that North Korea will not attempt to stalemate the North-South talks, having used them for the said purpose. We ought to keep an eye out for this.

Nevertheless, the fact that a North-South dialogue is in progress and, above all, the fact that Red China stressed the importance of North-South dialogue to North Korea by calling the 15 November North-South economic talks "very encouraging" is contributing greatly to the easing of tension on the Korean peninsula. We ought to keep an eye on the development of Red China-North Korea relations from this viewpoint.

NORTH KOREA-USSR BORDER DISPUTE DISCUSSED

SK170205 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 Nov 84 p 4

[Editorial: "N.K.-Soviet Border Dispute"]

[Text] Lately a border dispute between North Korea and the Soviet Union has come to light. For border talks, a Soviet delegation led by Vice Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa is now in Pyongyang.

We cannot help but be concerned about the dispute as it involves Korea's territory, although the nation is partitioned into halves at present with the communist regime in control of the northern half. From the legitimate standpoint of preserving our Korean territory, any part of it should not be subject to a deal no matter how the Pyongyang regime in the North might consider such matters. A border dispute between North Korea and the Soviet Union is an exceptional event according to recent memory. Therefore, our keen attention goes to the issue.

Upon arrival in Pyongyang Tuesday, Vice Minister Kapitsa said his visit was aimed at working out an agreement related to the Korea-Soviet border. Pyongyang reported yesterday that agreement has been just reached in principle, delegating technical details to working-level study. But experts believe that by all indications the two sides are still faced with difficulties in settling the dispute over a border running along the Tumen River which includes several islets at its estuary.

Both Pyongyang and Moscow seem inclined to appear eager to solve the border dispute. Kapitsa said the solution of the issue will contribute to consolidating "the friendly relations historically established" between North Korea and the Soviet Union. Pyongyang and Moscow certainly understand the significance of the problem. We are concerned that the border talks have come at a time when Moscow is apparently very sensitive to the present moves of North Korea. Such sensitivity is understandable in view of Pyongyang's posture of maintaining a careful balance, never leaning far toward either Beijing or Moscow. That considered, we cannot help worrying that the Pyongyang communists may make some concession on the border to the Soviets for political gains.

Such apprehension is warranted by the fact that North Korea reportedly made its port city of Najin available for Soviet military use in the mid-1970's. Again in the early 1980's. Pyongyang made another port, Chongjin, available to the Chinese. It still vividly lives in our memory that North Korea conceded to China part of Mt. Paektu a decade ago following territorial disputes with the Chinese. Pyongyang has not yet produced any due explanation on the reported concession.

The border talks with the Soviet Union were made known quite suddenly. There had been no signs of border controversy. It goes without saying that the obligation of preserving national territory is so important as to be regarded as sacred. It precedes ideologies. The bloody border dispute between the Soviets and Chinese over the Usuri River in the early 1970's was one good example. Whatever immediate interests may arise, territorial borders should in no way be made subject to a political deal. The contemporary generation is obliged to keep the territory intact for its offspring.

Now, delegates from South and North Korea are meeting to work toward mutual reconciliation and eventual unification of their divided peninsula. However difficult that task may be, all Koreans must not give up their hopes to have their motherland unified one day. Preservation of territorial integrity is, therefore, a paramount national task for the Korean people, be they in the South or North.

JSP DELEGATION'S VISIT, BACKGROUND EXAMINED

SK180102 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Nov 84 pp 1, 8

[From the "News in Review," column by political editor Kim Myong-sik]

[Text] Late last August, a group of Korean journalists visited Japan invited by the Japanese Foreign Ministry to meet leaders of government and private sectors and hear their opinion on President Chon Tu-hwan's forthcoming state visit to Tokyo.

Included in the itinerary was a press conference with Hokkaido Governor Takahiro Yokomichi, a former Japan Socialist Party member who still has close ties with the major opposition party. In the course of the conversation, Yokomichi told the visitors that he was willing to arrange an interview with a leading official of the JSP for Korean correspondents, unprecedented because of the Marxist-Leninist party's "non-recognition" of the Republic of Korea.

A few days later, Sanji Muto, chairman of the party's Finance and Banking Policies Committee, met Korean reporters. He hinted at the possibility of the party's exchanges with the ROK "on a private level," describing the long absence of contact "unnatural."

Whatever the role of the Japanese Foreign Ministry in the making of the JSP signal to Seoul, Korean authorities lost no time in grasping it and made private contacts with JSP members in Tokyo to set off some form of exchanges. The result is the scheduled five-day visit to Korea by five senior JSP members, led by former party chairman Koichi Yamamoto, beginning tomorrow. National Assembly Speaker Chae Mun-sik is to play host for them in the plain capacity as an Assembly member, not as head of the legislature.

The visitors will take the usual "VIP course" including front-line areas and industrial facilities in the southeastern provinces, and are expected to pay calls on government and political party leaders.

Thus, the "new era" in the relations between Korea and Japan is going to include a "detente" of a sort between Seoul and one portion of Japanese political structure which has remained untouchable for the past two decades since the diplomatic normalization.

Analysts in Seoul point out that it may prove to be the success of the Japanese Government's grand scheme to secure a counterbalance to its future approach to North Korea. If the Tokyo government in fact desires such a development, the Japanese opposition party, particularly its rightwing faction, is no less eager to start exchanges with Seoul in their efforts to impress constituents with their new pragmatic stance, they argued.

Yamamoto, now an advisor to the party who faced strong opposition from the JSP's left-wingers, told a press conference that it is "foolish" to shun improving relations with a country which is to host the next Olympics. To be more frank, analysts said, the JSP, for all its ideological bias, was compelled to recognize the existence of a political entity which is five times bigger in economy than North Korea and whose president made a state visit to their country.

The pitious dilemma of the JSP had been clearly exposed when it decided to "oppose" the Korean presidential visit but not to take to the street to manifest the objection.

After it significantly increased the number of parliamentary seats in the general elections late last year, the JSP had to behave more like a political force capable of assuming power. Therefore, its "vision" on the Korean peninsula was corrected to include South Korea with which private-level exchanges will be explored as JSP Chairman Masashi Ishibashi announced in September prior to his visit to Pyongyang.

To stress the "private" nature of the visit, party executives endorsed only non-Diet members for the trip. One dietman who was forced not to join the group resigned from his party post to come to Seoul.

The party withheld recognizing the visitors as an official delegation, an indication that the JSP is still far from turning truly "pragmatic" or "realistic" at best.

YIT KIMSENG RECEIVES USSR PEACE COMMITTEE GROUP

BK161139 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] Yit Kimseng, Kampuchean minister of health, on 15 November cordially received in Phnom Penh the delegation of the USSR Peace Defense Committee led by Valeriy Nakonechniy, secretary of the CPSU Committee of Primorskiy Region, the Russian Republic, and member of the Primorskiy Peace Defense Committee Presidium, now paying a friendship visit to Kampuchea.

On this occasion, the Kampuchean minister briefed the visitors on the successes, especially political successes, that the Kampuchean people won under the enlightened leadership of the KPRP during the past 6 years -- successes which have heightened their international prestige with each passing day. The whole Kampuchean people, he added, want to live in peace and are determined to defend and rebuild their beloved fatherland advancing toward socialism.

Minister Yit Kimseng, also chairman of the Kampuchean Peace Defense Committee, voiced total support for the peace initiatives of the USSR as well as all statements by its leaders in order to stave off the danger of a nuclear war.

In his answer, Valeriy Nakonechniy congratulated the Kampuchean people for their rebirth and hoped that this visit will contribute to a more vigorous development of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples. He also rejoiced in the rapid development of Kampuchea's Peace Defense Committee which, since its founding, has contributed greatly to the promotion of the friendly relations between Kampuchea and several peace-loving countries in the world.

VODK COMMENTS ON SOVIET SUPPORT FOR SRV

BK180952 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Station commentary: "No Matter How Stubborn and Procrastinated the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Their Soviet Masters Are, They Will Certainly be Completed in the End to Unconditionally Withdraw All Their Aggressor Forces from Kampuchea in Accordance With the Resolutions of the Past Six UN General Assembly Sessions"]

[Text] In a book by Chernenko, head of Soviet international expansionism, quoted by a Vietnamese paper on 14 November, the Soviet leader affirmed once again that the Soviet Union will continue to support Vietnamese policy in Kampuchea and in Southeast Asia. Chernenko's words clearly show that the Soviet Union will continue to back and sponsor Vietnam in its act of aggression in Kampuchea and expansion in Southeast Asia.

Everyone knows that the Vietnamese are being seriously defeated on the Kampuchean battlefield, isolated in the international arena, and are facing a multitude of problems at home. They have been very stubborn in refusing to withdraw all their aggressor forces from Kampuchea as prescribed by successive UN resolutions because they have Soviet international expansionism behind them.

The Soviet Union provides all kinds of support to the Vietnamese: weapons; economic, political, and diplomatic assistance, and so on. In fact, the Soviet Union now provides over \$6 million a day -- up from \$2 million -- to support Vietnam in its war of aggression in Kampuchea so that Vietnam can achieve its ambition of setting up the Indochinese Federation. Chernenko's words, therefore, are nothing new; they were aimed at assuring and comforting the Vietnamese who are being seriously defeated on the Kampuchean battlefield and at the 39th UN General Assembly session.

Why does the Soviet Union persist in backing Vietnam in its war of aggression in Kampuchea? Because the Soviet Union needs to use Vietnam as its agent in this region and also the Indochinese Federation as an outpost and a stepping stone to implement its global aggressive and expansionist strategy in the region. Without Vietnam as a stepping stone, the Soviet Union cannot intrude into Southeast Asia. This is why the Soviet Union badly needs Vietnam, and it will not easily abandon Vietnam.

As for Vietnam, it needs every kind of assistance from the Soviets to wage its war of aggression in Kampuchea to implement its own aggressive and expansionist strategy in the region and sustain itself at home. This is why the Hanoi Vietnamese have willingly become servants of the Soviet Union and allowed the latter to set up military bases on Vietnamese territory. For without assistance from the Soviets, the Vietnamese cannot continue its war of aggression in Kampuchea and cannot survive. So, the Vietnamese need the Soviets like a child needs his mother for milk. The view by some who want to provide some assistance or hold talks with Vietnam is pure illusion. Vietnam and the Soviet Union need one another and one cannot do anything without the other.

Through experiences of the past almost 5 years it is clear that despite their defeat on the Kampuchean battlefield, all kinds of difficulties in Vietnam, and all-round condemnation from the world community, the Vietnamese will not abandon their aggressive forces from Kampuchea as prescribed by the UN resolutions. On the contrary, Vietnam has become more and more a Soviet slave. As for the Soviet Union, although the Vietnamese war of aggression in Kampuchea is more serious and although it has to spend a lot on it, they will not back down; they will continue to assist the Vietnamese even more. This clearly shows that the Soviet Union will not abandon Vietnam and vice versa. They are bound together and are continuing to stubbornly implement their aggressive and expansionist strategy in the region.

In this situation, providing assistance to or holding talks with Vietnam to compromise one's principles, for one thing, is of no use, and for another, will only encourage and strengthen Vietnam and the Soviet Union to move quicker toward achieving their ambitions in the region. In other words, it is like putting food in a tiger's mouth. As for the best solution to resolve the Kampuchean issue which will make Kampuchea peaceful again and make Southeast Asia recover peace and stability, it is the one the international community has been firmly adhering to for the past almost 6 years. That is to unite and put even stronger pressure -- political, diplomatic, economic, and others -- on Vietnam by contributing to the struggle of the Kampuchean people and the CGDK on the battlefield in forcing the Hanoi Vietnamese to unconditionally withdraw their aggressor forces from Kampuchean people's right to self-determination without outside interference.

As long as the international community continues to keep pressure firmly and consistently on Vietnam, and as long as the Kampuchean people and the CGDK keep on fighting the Vietnamese on the battlefield and in the international arena with vigor, then no matter how stubborn and slow the Vietnamese and the Soviets are, they certainly will not be able to bear it. They will be compelled to implement the resolutions of the six UN General Assembly sessions.

NOTE ON FORESTRY COOPERATION SIGNED WITH SRV

BK171049 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Vientiane, November 17 (OANA-KPL) -- A memorandum on forestry cooperation was signed here yesterday by Maisouk Saisompheng, Lao minister of industry, handicraft and forestry, and Pham Xuan Dot, Vietnamese minister of forestry. The document provides for immediate and long-term cooperation between Laos and Vietnam in preserving and developing the fauna and flora of each country.

The same day, Pham Xuan Dot, who is also an alternate member of the CPV CC, and his delegation called on Sali Vongkhamsao, Secretariat member of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, president of the State Planning Committee. Pham Xuan Dot, informed his host of his fruitful visit here during the past week. For his part, S. Vongkhamsao highly evaluated the visit of the Vietnamese delegation, saying that it would contribute to developing the cooperation between the Lao and Vietnamese Ministries of Forestry.

Also present at the meeting were Maisouk Saisompheng member of the LPRP CC, and the economic counsellor to the Vietnamese Embassy in Laos, Dam Xuan Dung.

PASASON DISCUSSES SOCIAL ILLS IN THAILAND

BK171059 Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 17 Nov 84

["Commentary: PASASON on Social Ills in Thailand" -- KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, November 17 (OANA-KPL) -- Referring to recent statistics of the Thai authorities, PASASON's commentary today points out various social ills in the Thai society ranging from the infant mortality rates to crimes and the poor living standard of the Thai workers. Pinning down the sources of these social ills which have become rampant for about half a century, the paper says that this state of affairs has resulted from the selfish attitude of the ruling class rent by rivalry between the military and civilian factions.

Such rivalry has presently been manifested more strongly than ever before. Active on the scene is the ultra-rightist military group influenced and led by Beijing with Athit Kamlang-ek at its head who is flexing his muscles in an attempt to be above the government and even the royal family. This military group has worsened various crises due to its military ambition and pushed the national debt to over 20 billion dollars. The commentary goes on to say that this group is colluding with the big-nation expansionists and hegemonists to carry out "pan-Thaism" vis-a-vis Thailand's neighbours, a concrete example of this being the violation of Lao territory in Sayaboury Province.

Examining all events in the Thai society, especially the economic crisis resulting from the devaluation of the baht, we can see clearly it is the majority of the Thai population, the working people, that are suffering from the burden of all social ills. Suggesting a way out, the commentary says it is about time for Thailand to put aside pan-Thaism, stop colluding with the big nation expansionists and hegemonists of China and then proceed to foster peace and friendship with its neighbours, so that all concerned could channel efforts to economic building in each country in the spirit of cooperation as good neighbours, concludes the paper.

22 REPORTED KILLED IN KAMPUCHEAN BORDER ATTACK

BK190920 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 19 Nov 84 pp 1, 32

[Excerpt] Vietnam today stepped up pressure on Kampuchean resistance forces, hitting three resistance bases along the Thai-Kampuchean border in the first major dry season showdown that has left at least 22 dead and 100 wounded, field reports said. Burapha Task Force Commander Maj San Siphon said the fighting had sent 18,000 Kampucheans fleeing for cover in Thailand.

Field reports said tank-led Hanoi troops were shelling Khmer Rouge positions at Khlong Kai Tun and Pong Ma Muang, 40 and 50 kilometres south of Aranyaprathet, as well as the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) camp at Nong Chan, 30 kilometres north of the Thai border town. At Nong Chan and Pong Ma Muang, Thai troops were reportedly returning fire as Vietnamese gunners overshot artillery and failed to heed smoke signals.

Army Spokesman Maj-Gen Narudon Detpradiyut said Thai troops had been placed on full alert along the border since the attack on Nong Chan opened before dawn yesterday. First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit said Vietnamese troops had seized about half of the camp and he expected the fighting to continue for a few more days. Lt-Gen Phichit estimated that about five Vietnamese battalions, or about 1,800 men, backed up with tanks, artillery and rockets, were engaged in the operation.

A spokesman for the KPNLF told the WORLD that some 3,000-4,000 heavily-armed Vietnamese were involved in the bid to take the camp. The KPNLF side, he added, is holding out with about 1,000 combatants led by Chea Chut. Quoting first reports, the KPNLF spokesman said at least four KPNLF combatants had been killed and another 80 wounded in the fighting. Another 20 civilians had been wounded and were being treated at Khao I-Dang, he added.

The KPNLF spokesman said the attack began with a ground assault by Vietnamese infantrymen about 4 a.m. yesterday. The Vietnamese came "from many directions" and by 6 a.m. the camp came under heavy shelling with fighting reported throughout the day, he added. He said the camp's 20,000 civilians were evacuated during the course of yesterday.

Maj-Gen Narudon said the first group of 1,100 refugees fled across the border yesterday morning and were given shelter inside Thailand. About 1:40 p.m. the Vietnamese pounded Nong Chan with some 30 heavy artillery shells, two of which overspilled into Thai territory but there was no loss to life or property, he added. Lt-Gen Phichit said in all about five or six artillery shells fell into Thailand but the overshooting stopped after Thai troops fired smoke signals.

Maj-Gen Narudon said the Vietnamese were reported to have seized some KPNLF positions at Nong Chan about 2:20 p.m. and an hour later another 1,100 Kampucheans fled into Thailand. He said the refugees were being given shelter at a site two kilometres inside Thailand opposite a position held by Vietnamese troops. Field reports said fighting subsided about 9:00 p.m. last night but refugees continued to flee across the border.

Maj San was reported to have given out instructions to soldiers to carefully screen the refugees in case there were undesirable elements among them.

Lt-Gen Phichit described Vietnam's operation at Nong Chan as a harassment rather than an offensive which, he said, should engage more troops. He said he did not think Vietnam's action against Kampuchean guerrillas in the present dry season would be heavier than in previous years.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM ASEAN-EC MEETING

BK180652 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Speaking to newsmen this morning at Bangkok Airport upon returning from the EC-ASEAN meeting in Dublin, Ireland, on 15 and 16 November, Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said while abroad he was interviewed by the BBC about the devaluation of the baht and noted that several foreign ministers praised Thailand's decision to untie the baht from the U.S. dollar. Sitthi said the value of the U.S. currency increased by about 15 percent in the past 6-7 months, and this has caused U.S. deficits which, in turn, have benefited the EEC countries. As for Thailand, it has tried to resolve its problems in order to improve its trade. It will be successful if all sides cooperate. The devaluation may cause hardships initially, but things will eventually improve.

KING, QUEEN RECEIVE PREM IN UNSCHEDULED VISIT

BK170151 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Premier Gen Prem Tinsulanon flew to Sakhon Nakhon yesterday to have an audience with their majesties the king and queen at Pupan Palace. There was no official announcement of his unscheduled trip. Gen Prem left for Sakhon Nakhon after he presided over the opening of a seminar on provincial chambers of commerce at the Dusit Thani Hotel.

It was not known whether the premier would stay overnight in the northeastern province. Deputy Premier Phichai Rattakun said yesterday there was "nothing special" about the premier's trip. He said he understood that the premier is usually granted an audience with HM the king once a month to report on the country's situation.

FURTHER REACTION TO DEVALUATION OF BAHT

Prem Praised by U.S.

BK171118 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] The president of the U.S. Export-Import Bank, William H. Draper III, last Thursday [15 November] met Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon at Government House to discuss the general economic situation in Thailand. After the meeting, secretary general of the National Economic and Social Development Board, Dr Sano Unakun, said that Mr Draper had commended and supported the Thai Government on its recent decision to adopt a new exchange rate system. Mr Draper has also assured the prime minister that his bank will continue to give financial support to Thailand and will try to invest more here. He said his bank previously financed Thailand with \$167.7 million. Furthermore, he said that \$277.6 million will be added.

Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean told the prime minister that during the first 8 months of this year, Thailand exported goods worth \$150 million, or about 3.5 billion baht, to the United States. It is expected that Thailand will manage to have an even bigger trade surplus with the United States in the next 4 months.

Athit Defends Criticism

BK180245 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] Mud-slinging has become a way of life in Thai society and national unity is being threatened, the supreme commander said yesterday. Addressing Muslim leaders in the south, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek said he had already fallen victim to the popular trend.

Referring to leaflets accusing him of masterminding the rail strike, he said "those nonsensical things" were the "work of cowards". Gen Athit's denunciation on television of the government's decision to devalue the baht was seen as a "green light" to the previously placid labour movement, he said.

"This country has a load of problems. I want to see all concerned to be open-minded and listen to other people's views on those problems," he said. "The views may not please everyone but we must allow them to be heard."

The supreme commander said he was not deterred by the leaflets because of his duty to serve the country. "Sometimes we must endure those pains for speaking the truth. But only time will tell. "In the midst of false charges and personal attacks, we should remain prudent and uphold the virtue of our religious teachings."

Khukrit Pledges to Support Prem

BK180259 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Nov 84 p 1

[By Banyat Tasaniyawet]

[Text] Social Action Party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot pledged continued support for Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon yesterday. M.R. Khukrit, whose party commands 101 votes in parliament, said he wanted to see the Prem administration complete its term, which ends in 1987.

He said the government and the military appeared to have arrived at a compromise over the devaluation issue because "both sides saw that such conflict would benefit neither them nor the country as a whole."

The SAP strength in the House of Representatives has been a cornerstone of Gen Prem's coalition and M.R. Khukrit said the political situation was returning to normal as the devaluation row subsided.

Political tension had been high and rumours of an imminent coup were rife when Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek appeared on television to denounce the government over the devaluation and demand it be reversed and the cabinet reshuffled. The former prime minister also appeared on TV to voice support for the move to change the exchange system. M.R. Khukrit said the incident should have had no significant impact on the political scene and in apparent reference to Gen Athit, he said those involved in the row were acting with good intention and in the nation's interest.

During the row, M.R. Khukrit was in Chiang Mai, but he said without elaborating that he was closely involved in bringing about the settlement. "It turned out as I thought. In such a heated situation, we must play cool," he noted, saying that he could have fuelled the row with a sharp tongue.

Referring to the Chat Thai Party's planned mock debate against the government today, the SAP leader said the opposition appeared to have downgraded itself by switching the venue from the Dusit Thani Hotel to the Bangkok Palace Hotel.

Chat Thai Predicts Crisis

BK190322 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 19 Nov 84 p 2

[Text] Chat Thai Party yesterday lashed out at the government for its controversial decision to devalue the baht currency and predicted that the government will face a major economic crisis before it completes its term in two years.

About 500 people gathered at the meeting hall of the Bangkok Palace Hotel to listen to eight eloquent Chat Thai MP's who spoke against the government over the baht devaluation in a debate which was organized because of its failure to push for an extraordinary session of parliament to grill the government.

Kicking off the five-hour debate, party leader Maj Gen Praman Adireksan told the audience that the baht devaluation should be the last option, but the government had instead resorted to it as an easy way out. The move also reflected the deterioration of the economic standing of the country and by logical extension, showed that two years of administration under Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon had only accumulated economic problems of the country.

Maj Gen Praman said that his party had sent the premier a message calling for an investigation into 600-million-baht loan which went missing. It was borrowed for the purchase of rice from farmers, but the call has been unheeded by government. He also criticized the government for imposing a 18 percent ceiling on credit extension on commercial banks. The measure has caused as much damage to the economy as the baht devaluation, he said.

Maj Gen Praman also claimed that the government had not prepared measures in advance to cushion the adverse effects of the baht devaluation. To back up the claim, the opposition leader cited the Commerce Ministry made the announcement to control the prices of certain goods on Nov 5, three days after the devaluation.

The baht devaluation prompted many business enterprises to sustain losses and as a result, would make it difficult for the government to increase the taxes collected from the private sector and to gain sufficient revenues for the budget bill, for the next fiscal year, he said.

He also cited a survey by the National Statistics Board as showing the baht devaluation would affect the standard of living of the people. Middle-income earners will be affected by about 11.7 percent inflation while the negative impact on the lower-income earners will be around seven percent, he claimed.

Dr Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri said that the government had to devalue the baht currency because of the alarming extent of trade and payment deficits which reduced the foreign exchange reserve of the country to a worrisome level.

He charged the Prem administration as borrowing a record amount of foreign loans and impairing the economic situation of the country more than any other previous government.

He also charged the premier with going back on his words, citing that the baht devaluation came only five months after he had declared in a meeting of economic ministers on June 4 that the government would not devalue the baht currency. "And it was a 17.4 percent devaluation, mind you," the deputy party leader from Buriram said.

He said that the government had only three solutions to the economic problems: seeking loans, increasing taxes and devaluing the baht currency. The three easy solutions will only plunge the country into "disaster," he said.

Dr Anuwat said that the trade deficit for this year was expected to exceed the record deficit of 89 billion baht over the previous year.

Referring to reports that the U.S. ambassador to Thailand and a World Bank representative complimented the premier for his "political courage" to devalue the baht currency, Dr Anuwat said they gave the compliments because the devaluation promptly jacked up Thailand's debts to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank by 2,800 and 1,800 million baht respectively.

Nakhon Ratchasima MP Kon Thappharangsi said that the government had been solving one immediate problem after another, delaying the outbreak of an economic crisis. "But the major crisis will certainly come when the Oil Fund has been exhausted five months from now. The government will then be forced to increase the retail oil prices," he said.

The MP said that the devaluation would not significantly promote the exportation performance of the country as 48 percent of the Thai exports were manufactured goods, whose main ingredients were an assortment of raw material imported from foreign countries.

The other speakers were Sara Buri MP Pongphon Adireksan, Udon Thani MP Prachuap Chaisan, Suphanburi MP Praphat Phothisuthon, Sisaket MP Piyanat Watcharapon and Ratchaburi MP Chaowarin Latthasaksiri.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCES END OF RAILWAY STRIKE

BK161422 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Representatives of the State Railway Labor Union have decided to end their strike and resume work. Here is the report by Chairman of the Communications Committee of the House of Representatives Prem Malakun Na Ayutthaya at the Parliament Building this afternoon:

[Begin Prem recording] The State Railway Authority agreed to comply with the ruling of the Arbitration Committee dated 8 June 1984 as follows:

- 1.1. The state railway authority considers Saturday or the 6th day of the week as a day off and workers of the state railway authority who work on Saturday will be entitled to pay in accordance with the Interior Ministry's Announcement on Labor Protection dated 16 April 1972.
- 1.2 The pay for workers who are upgraded as employees of the state railway will be based upon their daily wage multiplied by 30 and upon an hourly wage multiplied by 240.
2. All employees of the state railway will return to their respective duties as of today.
3. For the implementation of Point 1, the state railway authority and the labor union will hold further talks to discuss the details, which will be completed within 45 days from 17 November 1984.
4. The state railway authority will not take disciplinary action or take legal action against the striking workers.

The record of the meeting was signed by all participants and representatives of the labor union attending the meeting held on 16 November 1984 by the Communications Committee of the House of Representatives at the Parliament Building. [end recording]

UN REPRESENTATIVE SPEECH ON INDOCHINA REPORTED

BK181720 Hanoi VNA in English 1642 GMT 18 Nov 84

["Vietnamese UN Representative Demands Indochina-ASEAN Dialogue" -- VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 18 -- Peace and stability are an immediate need for the Southeast Asia nations, especially the Indochinese countries, since they are the prerequisites for national construction, said Ambassador Hoang Bich Son, head of the Vietnamese permanent representation at the United Nations, at the Nov. 16 session of the U.N. General Assembly. The ambassador was quoted by V.N.A. U.N. correspondent as saying notably:

In the course of the last centuries, and especially in the past 40 years, it has always been the colonialist, imperialist, expansionist and hegemonist forces from outside the region that have posed a serious threat to independence, peace and stability in Southeast Asia, and although there exist among the Southeast Asian countries certain differences as well as problems rooted in history, viewed against threat from outside these differences are minimal.

Not having known peace and stability for so long a time the Southeast Asian region, more than any other part of the world, needs peace and stability. This is particularly true of the Indochinese nations who, victims of the most bloody wars, ardently yearn for peace and stability so that they can heal the wounds of war and rebuild their countries.

After 1975, Vietnam extended its hand of friendship to other countries in the region, wishing to set up good neighbourly relations and thus contribute to the early establishment of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia. At times, relations between the countries in the region saw encouraging progress. Afterward, although confrontation was instigated between the two groups of countries, Vietnam persisted in its friendly attitude rather than fall into the instigators trap.

Today the situation in Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries has improved. The illusions of bringing about the collapse of Vietnam and the rest of Indochina have disintegrated. Vietnam now finds itself in the staunchest overall position ever. So too does Indochina as a group of nations bound together by ever increasing mutual solidarity.

The most momentous change on the Indochinese peninsula has been the recovery of Kampuchea after the ghastly ravages by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Kampuchea's six-million population is making exceptional efforts to compensate for the loss of three million Kampuchean lives, of property, and of spiritual and cultural heritage at the hands of the Pol Pot clique.

Life there is back to normal in both the city and the countryside and is gradually improving. The Kampuchean people have become the real masters of their destiny striving to rebuild their homeland. Kampuchea's security has been consolidated and its defence strengthened. The people's armed forces of Kampuchea are assuming their responsibility in an ever more effective manner, making possible further annual withdrawals of Vietnamese volunteers. As this trend continues and in the absence of a political solution, most of the Vietnamese volunteers will be withdrawn within several years, and the question of Kampuchea will thus of itself be resolved. Naturally, a politically solution will help speed up the settlement of all differences and contribute to an early restoration of regional stability.

In the longer perspective, these two factors will assume even greater importance. For without peace and stability the peoples in Southeast Asia will be unable to build up their countries. Consequently, they will be in a more difficult position to cope with hostile forces from outside that will become several times stronger than they currently are. Therefore, more than anywhere else and more than ever before, Southeast Asia needs peace and stability.

Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries have been struggling tirelessly for a Southeast Asia of peace, stability and cooperation. Peace is indivisible. Tension and confrontation carry with them the danger of extended escalation.

On the contrary, restored peace and stability will contribute to the improvement of the international atmosphere, and equally to world peace and international security.

Fully aware of the immediate and long-term threat to their independence and sovereignty and to the security of the region as a whole, Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries believe it is necessary to take the path of peaceful negotiations to settle all regional differences.

If the countries in the region sit down together to jointly consider all regional issues on the basis of equality and mutual respect for each other's interests, then all these issues will be settled one after another. Everyone agrees that dialogue offers the best solution to these problems while confrontation obviously is a trap set by outside forces to weaken the countries in the region. The Indochinese countries note with satisfaction that the developing trend of dialogue in the region has been welcomed and encouraged by many countries and the secretary-general of the United Nations himself.

The movement of non-aligned countries has adopted a constructive approach to Southeast Asia problems. The movement's resolution on Southeast Asia provides a sound basis for a peaceful solution.

Addressing the Kampuchea issue alone without solving Southeast Asian problems will not lead to a lasting settlement. The Indochinese countries are not against a solution to the international aspect of the Kampuchea issues. There are three areas of consensus and differences between the countries of Indochina and A.S.E.A.N:

1. The two groups agree on the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces without permitting the return of the Pol Pot clique. They differ on the method to eliminate Pol Pot and his associates.
2. The two groups agree on the respect for the right to self-determination of the Kampuchean people. They differ on how this right should be exercised.
3. The two groups agree on the need for having international guarantee and supervision whose contents shall be a matter for further discussion.

In order to speed up the process of dialogue between the two groups of countries, both sides have delegated their respective representatives: Indonesia for the A.S.E.A.N and Vietnam for the Indochinese countries. Vietnam is of the view that the two sides should meet and exchange views so as to further their mutual understanding, and points of agreement being found and points of difference being put aside, to gradually solve all problems on the basis of mutual agreement. Vietnam and the other Indochinese countries are prepared to engage in negotiation with the A.S.E.A.N countries in the spirit of:

1. Respect for each others independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, equality, mutual benefit, peaceful coexistence and a Southeast Asia of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation.
2. Settlement of disputes and differences in the relations between the countries of the two groups as well as between the latter and other countries in the region by peaceful means and through negotiations with the understanding that Southeast Asian problems are to be solved by Southeast Asian countries, on the principles of equality, friendship, mutual respect, joint agreement, nonimposition of the will of one side on the other, respect for each other's legitimate interests, absence of outside interference, non-use or threat of use of force.
3. Respect by outside powers for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the countries in the region, an end to all pressures and threats from outside causing tension and confrontation between the countries in the region, no permission given by the countries in the region to any country to use their territory as a base of aggression and direct or indirect intervention against other countries.

Vietnam feels gratified by the concern shown by many countries for peace and stability in Southeast Asia. This is a strong encouragement for the trend of dialogue between the two groups of countries to further develop into specific acts, leading to heartening results.

It is our view that looking straight at the facts and getting rid of all selfish motives, one shall find a reasonable solution. In the course of the past 40 years, the settlement of the conflicts in Indochina has three times been reached through negotiations between the parties concerned. This time, a similar settlement can be achieved, provided that good will is forthcoming from all sides.

PRC ATTITUDE DISCUSSED BY SRV UN OFFICIAL

BK181742 Hanoi VNA in English 1708 GMT 18 Nov 84

["Vietnamese UN representative Criticizes China's Anti-Vietnam-Attitude" -- VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 18 -- A Vietnamese U.N. official Friday refuted China's claim that the cause of instability in Southeast Asia was Vietnam's aggression and occupation of Kampuchea.

Ambassador Le Kim Chung, deputy head of the Vietnamese permanent representation at the United Nations, pointed out at a meeting on Nov. 16 of the U.N. General Assembly that the Chinese representative had added nothing to the false and slanderous comments that China habitually made against Vietnam.

But who exactly was the aggressor in all the neighbouring countries of China? He asked. He said the responsibility for the genocide in Kampuchea lay at the door of Beijing, which had had a stranglehold on the Pol Pot clique.

Who sent troops against the northern borders of Vietnam in February 1979, he continued. China had followed the American aggressors in their attempts to dominate Vietnam, he said. After the failure of that aggression, Beijing had massed its troops on the northern border of Vietnam and had brought immense military pressure and threats to bear against the Vietnamese Government. The Chinese representative had bragged that there was not one Chinese soldier on foreign soil, but, he asked, how many Chinese soldiers were still stationed on Vietnamese territory and on the Hoang Sa (Paracels) archipelago?

SITUATION ALONG CHINESE, THAI BORDERS REVIEWED

BK171018 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] The Chinese propaganda machine has continued slandering Vietnam, saying that Vietnam has shelled or fired on many areas along the Chinese border and that due to Vietnam, the situation along the Kampuchean-Thai and the Lao-Thai borders remain tense. So, what is the truth?

The following is our review of the situation at the borders of the three Indochinese countries in the past several months:

Since July this year, China has, in fact, continued committing new crimes against the Vietnamese people in the northern border provinces. It still maintains a big armed force close to the Sino-Vietnamese border. In its October issue, ASIaweek, published in Hong Kong, said that China is strengthening its forces at the Sino-Vietnamese border. About 200,000 infantry troops and several modern aircraft have been sent there.

In October alone, Chinese artillery fired more than 5,250 assorted rounds on Vietnam's northern border province of Ha Tuyen; some places, about 8 km deep inside Vietnamese territory. Vi Xuyen District alone was hit by nearly 5,000 shells. As a result of many hamlets, houses, orchards, and ricefields were destroyed. During this period, Chinese scouts entered Vietnamese territory 22 times for sabotage and reconnaissance activities.

Particularly serious is that in the first 4 days of November, Chinese soldiers made repeated artillery shellings against and cross-border incursions into Ha Tuyen Province. On 3 November, Chinese artillery fired 1,400 shells on Vi Xuyen District, destroying army houses and vast areas of cropfields.

Meanwhile, Beijing is tightening its collusion with Washington and connived with and supported the Bangkok authorities to carry out provocations against Kampuchea at the Kampuchean-Thai border. Not a single week has passed without Thailand's violation of Kampuchean territory. In the week ending 26 [October], Thailand conducted 500 violations against Kampuchea and in the week ending 3 November, 400 violations were conducted.

Alongside with these moves, China encouraged and supported Thai troops to continue artillery shellings on many areas in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province of Laos. Worthy of note is that on 5 November, Thai troops stationed in Huai Phai, Thailand, fired 15 artillery rounds on an area of northwest of Savang hamlet, Laos. Earlier, on 4 November, Thai troops stationed on the foot of Keiu Noksep hills on the Lao-Thai border fired 12 cannon shells at Nam Pha, Savang hamlet, causing many losses to the local people. Meanwhile, Thailand still refuses to withdraw its troops from the three Lao hamlets it is illegally occupying. It has not yet given up its territorial ambitions over Laos. These moves, as pointed out by the Lao Foreign Ministry in its statement on 26 October, are lying in the plot of the Thai authorities in collusion with Beijing against the LPDR, causing tension in Southeast Asia.

That was the truth about the situation at the Sino-Vietnamese, the Kampuchean-Thai, and Lao-Thai borders in the past several months. At present, the situation at these borders remains tense. The responsibility fully rests on the Chinese side. Western observers were right when they said that the China always caused tension at the Sino-Vietnamese border and incited reactionary forces in the region to cause tension at the Kampuchean-Thai and Lao-Thai borders in an attempt to bleed the Indochinese countries and sabotage their national construction and defense.

SECOND SOVIET-AIDED EARTH SATELLITE STATION BEGUN

OW160851 Hanoi VNA in English 0823 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 15 -- A ceremony was held in Ho Chi Minh City today to start the construction of the second "Hoa Sen" (Lotus) earthsatellite station with Soviet assistance in Vietnam.

Present at the event were Do Muoi, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Van Linh, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee; Hoang Ban, deputy director of the General Post Office; and others.

Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh, deputy to the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet Alternate Political Bureau member and secretary of the C.P.S.U. Central Committee, and head of the visiting Supreme Soviet delegation; and O.A. Volkov, Soviet consul-general in the city; attended the ceremony.

Do Muoi and V.I. Dolgikh signed their names in the visitors' book and joined hands in laying the first stone, starting the construction of the project which is expected to be completed before April 30, 1985 in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam.

The station "Hoa Sen" No. 1 is in operation in the northern province of Ha Nam Ninh.

NGUYEN DUC TAM HEADS GROUP TO ROMANIAN CONGRESS

OW161534 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 16 -- A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) led by Nguyen Duc Tam, Political Bureau member and secretary of the C.P.V. C.C., has left here for Bucharest to attend the Romanian Communist Party's 13th Congress at the invitation of the R.C.P. Central Committee. The delegation includes Do Van Tai, deputy head of the party C.C.'s International Department, and Pham Duy Toan, Vietnamese ambassador to Romania.

It was seen off by Vo Chi Cong, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party C.C.; Vu Quang, member of the party C.C. and head of its International Department; Vo Van Sung, assistant foreign minister; and others. Romanian Ambassador Constantin Potinga was also present.

LOSONCZI LEADS DELEGATION FROM HUNGARY

BK190141 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] At the invitation of the CPV Central Committee and the SRV Council of State, a party and state delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic arrived in Hanoi today for an official friendship visit to our country.

The delegation comprises comrades Pal Losonczi, member of the Political Bureau of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Central Committee and president of Hungarian People's Republic Presidential Council, head delegate, who is accompanied by Madam Losonczi; Janos Borbandi, member of the MSZMP Central Committee, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and head of the Hungarian section of the Hungary-Vietnam Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, delegate, Lajos Rev, member of the MSZMP Central Committee, secretary of state, and president of the National Council of Industrial Cooperatives, delegate; Rezső Banyasz, secretary of state and chairman of the Council of Ministers Information Bureau, delegate; Dr Gabor Nagy, deputy minister of foreign affairs, delegate; Dr Gyorgy Doro, deputy chairman of the National Planning Office and deputy head of the Hungarian section of the Hungary-Vietnam Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, delegate; and Bela Benvei, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to the SRV, delegate.

NGUYEN CO THACH GREETES MONGOLIAN COUNTERPART

OW161622 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 16 -- Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach today sent a message of greetings to his Mongolian counterpart, Managalyn Dugersuren, on the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Mongolia. The message says:

"I am very glad to note that the fraternal friendship and close cooperation between our two countries, especially the two Foreign Ministries, have constantly consolidated and developed over the past 30 years. I am deeply convinced that these relations will be further strengthened in the interests of the Vietnamese and Mongolian peoples and the socialist community as a whole and for the victory of the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in Asia and elsewhere in the world".

It wishes the fraternal Mongolian people, under the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Party of Mongolia many new and ever greater successes in socialist construction and national defence.

SOCIALIST CULTURAL CONFERENCE CLOSES 16 NOV

OW161629 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 16 -- The eleventh conference of the heads of the International Department of the Ministry of Culture of socialist countries closed in Ho Chi Minh City today after three days' sitting.

The conference, attended by delegations from 11 (eleven) countries heard reports on preparations for five-year 1986-90 plans for cultural cooperation among socialist countries. It discussed the prospect for the development of cultural relations between the socialist countries and other countries in Southeast Asia and South Asia. The foreign guests visited several economic, cultural and educational in Ho Chi Minh City.

PARTY SOLICITS PEOPLE'S OPINION ON PENAL CODE

BK181300 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Nov 84

[Text] The party Central Committee Secretariat recently issued a directive on the publication of the people's opinions concerning the part of the penal code dealing with crimes. The directive points out:

The publication of the draft of the part of the penal code dealing with crimes, which is aimed at soliciting opinions from cadres and the people, provides an opportunity for educating the entire party, people, and Army in legal awareness so as to make everyone know more clearly what the criminal offenses are and their punishment. It will also create a high level of singlemindedness between the state and the people in jointly respecting and scrupulously implementing the law, in the struggle to prevent and control crimes, and in ensuring satisfactory socioeconomic management in accordance with the law.

The Secretariat urged all echelons and sectors to organize satisfactorily the solicitation of opinions from state organs and social and people's organizations, as well as from the Armed Forces on the basis of the plan for publicizing this document.

The Propaganda and Training Department and the People's Proselytizing Department of the party Central Committee, the Ministry of Justice, and the offices of the National Assembly and the Council of State will provide specific guidance on the introduction of the draft of the part of the penal code dealing with crimes through the press, radio, and television.

All party committees of provinces and municipalities directly subordinate to the central government will nominate a standing member to consult with representatives of the VFF, the people's committees, and the justice offices to work out a unified plan for guiding all sectors, echelons, and the local armed forces in organizing discussions. They will assign cadres to monitor all discussions and gather opinions contributed by the people toward the draft so that a recapitulative report can be compiled by each province or municipality for submission to the central government.

The Secretariat urged all echelons and sectors to provide close supervision so that solicitation of the people's opinions on the draft of the state's penal code will bring about realistic results.

NHAN DAN Hails Code

BK181429 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Nov 84

[NHAN DAN 8 November editorial: "Live by the Law and Respect the Law"]

[Text] Our people are in the first stage of the transition period. Socialist construction is taking place in our country against a very complicated international situation. The country is confronting many serious difficulties. The struggle between the two socialist and capitalist roads is intense, and the struggle between ourselves and the enemy is also very fierce. The relics of the old societies have yet to be wiped out completely. Building and developing the working people's right to collective mastery in line with the system of leadership by the party, mastery by the people, and management by the state constitutes an issue of decisive significance for the successful implementation of the two strategically important tasks of building socialism successfully and defending the socialist fatherland firmly.

The working people exercise their right to collective mastery chiefly through the state and under the leadership of the party. Our state is a proletarian dictatorship state. Strengthening the socialist legal system is a pressing requirement for enhancing the state's managerial efficiency and guaranteeing the working people's right to collective mastery. To strengthen social management on the basis of the law our state is urgently concretizing the new Constitution into legal systems, with attention given to systematically building the system of economic laws and social security laws. The state has promulgated many documents on criminal laws which develop their good effects in social life and contribute toward the fulfillment of revolutionary tasks. However, they are merely separate documents that lack fundamental uniformity and integration in the long term. These documents do not cover all the offenses, and some of them are no longer suitable with the current situation.

At its June 1983 and June 1984 sessions, the Seventh National Assembly discussed and preliminarily passed the part dealing with generalities and the part dealing with offenses of the draft penal code. The compilation of the draft penal code of the SRV constitutes a big step of progress that reflects the efforts taken by our party, state, and people to strengthen the socialist legal system. The draft penal code fully symbolizes the penal policy of our party and state in the new revolutionary state. It embodies the requirements for implementing the two strategic tasks and conducting simultaneously the three revolutions with the aim of building a new system, a new economy, a new culture, and a new type of men.

The draft penal code of our country clearly points out the viewpoints of our party and state toward offenses and punishment and defines appropriate measures to deal with the circumstances of crimes. Offenses are acts that violate the independence, sovereignty, unification, and territorial integrity of the fatherland and the nation's security; infringe on socialist ownership and on the lives, property, health, dignity, honor, and other fundamental rights of citizens; and violate other aspects of socialist order and law. Punishment under our system is not of an avenging nature. For the offenders, punishment is also meant to educate and transform them into honest citizens and to prevent them from committing new crimes. For others, punishment serves as a deterrent, it contributes to enhancing legal awareness and encourages everyone to prevent and control crimes.

The publication of the part dealing with crimes of our country's penal code, which is aimed at soliciting opinions from broad sections of the people, is an event of great political significance. This is an opportunity for promoting legal awareness, respect for the law, and a discipline life-style in all our party, Army, and people. This is also an opportunity for creating a high level of singlemindedness between the party, the state, and the people -- who are collective masters -- in jointly respecting and scrupulously implementing the law, in struggling for the prevention and control of crimes, and in carrying out socioeconomic management in accordance with the law. Also, this is an opportunity to remind all people and state organs at the central and local levels to adopt a resolute attitude and tough measures for preventing and controlling all acts violating the people's right to collective mastery; strongly suppressing counterrevolutionary elements; punishing exploitative persons who refuse transformation, thugs and hooligans, speculators, smugglers, and corrupt elements; and strictly and justly dealing with cadres and state employees who take advantage of their positions and authorities to act against the law.

Everyone must abide by the law and must be subject to punishment if committing offenses, be they cadres or people, party members or nonparty members. All our party, people, and Army should promote the sense of living by the law and respecting the law in order to firmly uphold social discipline and develop the people's right to collective mastery.

USSR SENDS SYMPATHY, RELIEF FOR STORM 'AGNES'

OW171606 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 17 -- Chairman of the Council of Ministers Phan Van Dong has received a message from the Council of Ministers of the USSR expressing heartfelt sympathy over the serious human and material losses caused by the recent storm "Agnes" to many localities in Vietnam.

The Soviet Government has decided to send a quantity of cloth, condensed milk, food, medicines and medical equipment as relief to the population in the storm-stricken areas.

FLOOD DAMAGE IN HA SON BINH PROVINCE REPORTED

BK170954 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 Nov 84

[Text] Ha Son Binh Province, next to Hanoi capital on the west, was heavily struck by recent floods. Report from Ha Son Binh said that more than 50,000 hectares of ripening rice and about 6,000 hectares of winter crops have been submerged. At present, to save the submerged rice and other crops is the most important task of the farmers in Ha Son Binh and other flood-stricken provinces. Many students and public employees have joined the farmers in overcoming the flood aftermath and restoring production.

REPORTER TOURS UNG HOA DISTRICT'S FLOODED AREAS

OW171143 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 Nov 84

[Report by Voice of Vietnam reporter Tran Son Ngoc: "Ung Hoa District Is Urgently Combating Waterlogging"]

[Excerpt] Dear friends: On 10 November, at noon, after traversing the water-covered streets of Hanoi, we came to Ha Son Binh Province. Moving along National Route 6, we passed the Ba La-Bong Do crossroads, then proceeded to Van Dinh Tiwn, and moved on to the Chay area, along Route 75, and then continued our trip along National Route 1. Every area we traversed, from Thanh Oai to My Duc to Ung Hoa, Phu Xuyen, and Thuong Tin Districts -- the lowest areas of Ha Son Binh Province -- was seriously affected by waterlogging, resulting from the torrential rains on 9 November and early on 10 November.

Comrades in Ha Son Binh told us that the rainfall in the area was very high, with 400-450 mm in Thanh Oai and My Duc Districts -- the areas with the lowest rainfall -- and 500-700 mm in Ung Hoa and Phu Xuyen Districts -- which had the highest rainfall.

The torrential rains came suddenly. Be 2200 [1500 GMT] on 9 November, members of the Tao Duong Dang, Phuong Tu, Phuong Thinh, Hoa Lam, and Dong Tan cooperatives in Ung Hoa District were not in the least worried about the water level in the rice paddies after their check of the fields, because the low-lying paddies were just covered. Yet, only 8 hours later, on the morning of 10 November, thousands of hectares of ripening rice were already deep under water. The same thing happened in nearly all localities of Ha Son Binh Province. The water level rose higher and higher in the fields, and the waters in the Nhue, Day, and Tich Giang Rivers were cresting. In many areas, the waters in the fields were 0.80-1.00 meters lower than those in the rivers. As a result, the runoff could not be drained away. Many villages were submerged. The province's 10th-month rice seriously affected by waterlogging reached tens of thousands of hectares. All major communications lines between villages and district capitals, and between district capitals and the provincial capital, were cut by water in many sections causing obstacles to production and traffic.

On the afternoon of 10 November, we went to the office of the People's Committee of Ung Hoa District, the lowest district of Ha Son Binh Province, and also the worst-hit area, with the highest rainfall. In this year's 10th-month crop, Ung Hoa District planted 10,500 hectares of rice. Because the district has low-lying paddies, its early rice area is relatively small. By 9 November, only some 2,000 hectares had been harvested. District authorities said that the district had planned to harvest 8,500 hectares of the main 10th-month rice crop on 10 November. The district's 10th-month rice developed pretty well, with expected average yields of 27-over 30 quintals per hectare. This winter, the district had grown crops pretty early, with over 600 hectares already planted across the district. After only one night of heavy rain, all the cultivated areas were deep under water. The natural disaster came as a surprise to the district. However, as Ung Hao District is a low-lying area, prone to natural calamities, its cadres and people, accustomed to combat waterlogging in the past, have rapidly applied intensive measures to save the rice.

REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT'S HEALTH, WHEREABOUTS

Official Says Marcos 'Well'

HK191122 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] Malacanang today said that, contrary to rumors circulating in Metro Manila, President Marcos is well and performing his official functions as usual. Assistant Press Secretary Amante Bigornia said the president is in Malacanang and that he has been in touch with key officials of the administration all the time. Bigornia said Mr Marcos conferred over the telephone last night with Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Information Minister Gregorio Cendana, and acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos.

Marcos Not at Palace

HK191244 Hong Kong Asia Television Limited in English 1214 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] The Philippine information minister has denied press reports and widespread rumors that President Marcos is seriously ill and has undergone major surgery, but palace sources say that neither Mr Marcos nor his wife, Imelda, appears to be at the presidential palace. One source said that this is the first time in 20 years that the president has not been in contact with palace staff for more than 2 days.

Marcos Undergoes Surgery

HK191254 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 19 Nov 84 pp 4-5

["Here and Now" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "The Nation and the President"]

[Text] President Marcos underwent a major surgical operation last Wednesday, Malacanang sources have disclosed. The operation was a success, they said. But medical informants who claimed to be familiar with the case could not say for sure whether he was completely past his crisis. They said he needed at least two operations, one involving the kidney and another the heart, and it is not known whether doctors had had to perform just one, or two surgeries.

All day Sunday I was getting calls from all sorts of people who had been getting calls from relatives and friends in the United States and Canada, asking if it was true that the 67-year-old president was dead. The best I could say was there had been no announcement of any kind from the government.

No medical bulletins have been issued. None was expected. In the last few days, the president has managed to remain in the public eye through regular press releases. According to the Malacanang Press Office, he had directed the acting chief of staff, Lt Gen. Fidel Ramos, to investigate the killing of Mayor Cesar Climaco in Zamboanga City; declared a number of places in the South as calamity-stricken areas; ordered the economic managers to study the possible lowering of interest rates; ordered Gen. Ramos again, to investigate the reported massacre of Christians by Muslims in Lanao Del Sur. But he has not been seen on TV -- except for some replays -- or photographed at work by the press. First daughter Imee, in the meantime, was reported to have taken over the job of managing the news flow from the Office of Media Affairs, to prevent any bungling of the press releases.

For a while it looked like Malacanang was inclined to issue a statement yesterday saying the president was slightly indisposed and would be taking a few days' rest. At this writing, however, no such statement had been issued. Instead, it continued the simulation of government by press release, and issued the reported directive to Gen. Ramos. It wasn't clear whether Gen. Ramos had received the directive in person, by letter, or by telephone, or whether the press release was itself to be taken as the directive. But the amazing thing is that the Malacanang press release also carried Gen. Ramos's supposed directive to the officers under him in carrying out the president's reported directive.

For the first time since I left the cabinet in 1980, I called the president's study room to inquire whether Malacanang was aware at all of the rumor around town that the president had died, and whether there was no intention on the part of the president, Mrs. Marcos, or anybody of sufficiently high rank to say something about the president's whereabouts, and state of health. The aide on duty -- he was the only one around -- said there were all sorts of rumors, but that the president had boarded his yacht on his way to an inspection tour of the south.

Apart from Mrs. Marcos, Gov. Ambassador Benjamin Romualdez, and immediate family members, no one in the government -- notably in the cabinet -- is known to have had any access to the president.

The operation was reportedly performed at the Kidney Center in Quezon City, which has recently received a P [Pesos] 120-million subsidy to improve its facilities. The president, sources said, checked in midnight of Tuesday, following a full and highly visible working day that culminated in a 90-minute meeting with U.S. Senator Christopher J. Dodd (D-Connecticut). Previous to that, he had managed to say something about his continued good health, by announcing his reelection bid in 1987 to his KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan] colleagues.

From Oct. 29 to Nov. 11, medical, nursing and support personnel of the Center, according to some insiders, had been asked to go on forced leave until the end of November, allegedly to make way for the "repair" of the Center's electrical and plumbing systems, which nobody thought needed any repairs. The personnel were, however, subsequently replaced by unfamiliar personnel. Meantime all telephone communications to and from, and within, the Center suddenly had to go through the operator, and every glass panel, window or opening was covered with blinds or cardboard. Kidney patients, many of them transplant cases, in various degrees of recuperation, were either sent home or relocated to another building which did not have the same facilities or suitability as their former place of confinement. And then, Mrs. Marcos paid a visit at the Center, ostensibly for ceremonial purposes.

It was the second time in two years that the president, who is said to suffer from systemic lupus erythematosus, had to undergo a major operation. In August last year, he had his first kidney operation. Malacanang stonewalled his absence from public view then by saying that he had taken a few days off to write several books -- a rather absurd excuse that appalled even some insiders. Malacanang kept so tight a lid on the operation that no one in the cabinet knew where the president was, or how he was -- for days. On the day after the Aquino assassination, when the Luzon power grid broke down and cast the whole of Luzon in daytime darkness, rumor swept Manila that the president had himself died.

No one could confirm or deny it; the most that some of the cabinet members closest to him could say then was: "I don't know, I haven't heard." The president had since told the press that he had a surgical operation during that period to take care of some infection from shrapnel wounds sustained during the war, that's all. But despite such reticence, it has been possible for competent sources to confirm that he had, indeed, undergone a kidney transplant.

The implant, according to the same sources, had apparently been doing well for a year, but had become a problem affecting other organs. Some cardiologists at the Heart Center said that the published results of the president's last treadmill test showed some "insufficiency."

Up to this point, the most authoritative statement about the president's health has been given consistently not by a duly authorized competent medical practitioner, but by the president himself. He used to do this by appearing on television, and challenging critics and doubters to a jogging, wrestling or boxing match. At this time, however, he seems to have allowed Media Affairs Minister Cendana and Assistant Press Secretary Bigornia to say that he is in town "performing his functions and duties," while he himself remains unheard, or unseen. This is unsettling indeed.

Amid the most distressing reports about the president's state of health, it is a matter of duty -- not of choice -- that official medical bulletins be issued by the government. The people have a right to know whether their president is ill or well, and the government has the duty to inform them. The very security of the nation is endangered by official silence or indifference.

If the president is incapacitated, the constitutional provision and the law on succession must be allowed to operate. If he is merely ill and needs a few days of rest, the nation should not be deprived of its duty to pray for his good health. And if he is well, the nation should be relieved of its fears and anxieties.

Speculation Persists

HK161456 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 16 Nov 84 p 22

[Text] Malacanang last night denied that President Marcos has left the country for medical treatment abroad. Amante Bigornia, assistant press secretary of the Presidential Press Staff, told BUSINESS DAY that the president is in town and is "performing his functions and duties."

Rumors persisted yesterday that the president had left the country on board a Philippine Airlines plane bound for the United States where he allegedly would undergo treatment. Others had it that the president was confined at the Lung Center of the Philippines. The rumors may have been fueled by reports that the president and the first lady canceled all commitments and appointments yesterday and today.

A report that Prime Minister Cesar Virata would be returning to Manila this weekend from West Germany may have also given rise to speculation of a government crisis. However, a dispatch from the PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY said Virata has completed talks with foreign banks for some \$1.65 billion in new loans. Another fact that may have contributed to the speculation was the president's absence from television news clips for the past two days. The last time the president was seen on television was when he met with visiting U.S. Senator Christopher J. Dodd last Tuesday.

Early yesterday afternoon, Minister of Information Gregorio S. Cendana announced that the president was postponing his trip to the south because of reports of another powerful typhoon approaching Eastern Visayas and the Bicol Region. The rescheduling of the president's survey tour of the typhoon-devastated areas in the Visayas and Mindanao would be made at the appropriate time, Cendana said. Marcos was scheduled to sail for the south on the presidential yacht this week.

MARCOS ORDERS STUDY ON LOWERING INTEREST RATES

OW171417 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 17 Nov 84

[From the "Newswatch" program]

[Text] The country's economic managers will look into the possibility of reducing interest rates to encourage people to go into business to push the economic program. To undertake the study on orders of the president, are the Monetary Board, Prime Minister Cesar Virata, Trade and Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin, and NEDA [National Economic and Development Authority] Director General Vicente Valdepenas.

According to the president, this problem should be resolved with the least possible delay. The president said the prevailing high interest rates are adversely affecting efforts at greater productivity, and the return to normalcy of our economy.

Meantime, Prime Minister Cesar Virata arrived last night, expressing optimism the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund would grant a final okay on the country's \$630 million standby credit request, on or before December 10 this year.

Virata concluded talks last week with some foreign commercial banks abroad, although he still has to negotiate with many other Philippine creditor banks before the country is assured of \$925 million in new money. This bank-to-bank drive is needed to secure the IMF's final approval.

[Begin Virata recording in progress] ...Yet, but what is important now is for us to prepare to meet with them, and we are going to meet in Tokyo on the 22d, in Hong Kong on the 23d, and there will be two meetings on the 26th -- one in Frankfurt and the other one in San Francisco -- and then 27th in London and in Chicago, on the 28th in Toronto, and on the 29th in New York. [end recording]

PRESIDENT ORDERS SUSPENSION OF LOANS BY BANK

HK191036 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Nov 84

[Text] President Marcos has issued a directive for the suspension of all loans by the Philippine Military Veterans Bank. This is in view of the bank's current financial losses. The president has asked for an updated report of the bank's financial situation.

The Philippine Military Veteran's Bank, formerly known as the Philippine Veterans Bank, was reshuffled last March when it ran into financial difficulties. In his directive, President Marcos mentioned that the bank's rehabilitation should be effected while the government is involved in negotiations with the IMF. He said that he hopes the bank will recoup its losses after the suspension of all loans. In its present setup, the bank is classified as a universal bank. Other universal banks are the Philippine National Bank, Development Bank of the Philippines, Land Bank of the Philippines and Philippine Amana Bank.

VIRATA ON SECURING NEW MONEY FROM FOREIGN BANKS

HK170051 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Prime Minister Cesar Virata last night [16 November] said the country may secure the 90 percent commitment level of the new money it is seeking from foreign creditor banks by the second week of December. The prime minister made the remark upon arrival at the Manila International Airport last night from Amsterdam, where he held talks with representatives of the Paris Club. He disclosed that the dates for the negotiations with other creditor banks have already been set. He also said they will submit the country's Economic Program to the foreign bank, and the program has been approved by the International Monetary Fund with regard to the request for a \$630 million standby credit.

\$2.1 BILLION IN LOANS NEEDED FOR FOREIGN DEBTS

HK141516 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 14 Nov 84

[Text] The Philippines would have to ask a total of \$2.1 billion in new loans from official sources to finance its \$3-billion foreign exchange shortfall for 1984 and 1985, according to the revised financial program worked out by economists of the Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The new estimates were made to reflect the relief effects of the debt rescheduling plan approved by the 12-member advisory committee of the country's 483 creditor banks, and the \$925 million in new loans being asked from those banks.

According to the program, the outflow of foreign exchange in 1984 and 1985 -- without a rescheduling of debts -- is expected to exceed inflows by a total of \$3.9 billion. However, with the postponement of principal debt repayments and the provision of suppliers' credits and loans from official sources approved so far, this deficit in balance of payments will be reduced to @1.8 billion.

Aside from this deficit, another \$1.2 billion in foreign exchange obligations will have to be settled in 1984 and 1985, bringing to a total \$3 billion the financing requirements for the period. These obligations consist of foreign debt arrears and the banking system's and maturing obligations that are not included in the debt rescheduling plan.

The program states this "total financing gap of \$3 billion will have to be covered with new money from both official and banking sources in the respective amounts of \$2.1 billion and \$925 million." It adds that "the new money from official sources is expected to come from the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, and from bilateral sources, mainly the U.S. and Japanese Governments and official credit agencies.

CB Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. recently said IMF Managing Director Jacques de Larosiere's assessment is that at least \$1 billion of this new money has been assured by the official sources. BUSINESS DAY yesterday reported that this \$1 billion actually consists of \$675 million in official loans scheduled to be disbursed in 1985 according to the contracts signed as of Dec. 31 1983.

According to the estimates, the deficit in balance of payments will rise to \$1.4 billion in 1986 from the annual average of \$900 million for 1984-1985, because of substantial principal repayments scheduled for that year.

Fernandez recently said there would be bulge in payments of foreign loans and interest in 1986 mainly because the \$925-million new money from commercial banks will have to be paid in full when it matures in 1986. The program indicates that the increased debt-service requirement for 1986 cannot be met, so that obligations maturing that year, estimated at \$937 million to commercial banks and \$431 million to official creditors, will have to be rescheduled. Assuming that these obligations are rescheduled, the country will need \$430 million in new money to finance its foreign exchange shortfall for 1986.

The estimates assume that exports will grow moderately in 1985 and 1986, at 10 percent to 11 percent compared to the 20 percent annual average in the 1975-1980 period. The export projections assume a moderate growth in the industrial countries of about 4 percent, compared to the 3 percent projected by the World Bank. The World Bank also estimates that a 2 percent growth in industrial countries would reduce the Philippines export earnings by 2 percent to 3 percent.

FARM PRODUCTION AGREEMENT STILL IN QUESTION

HK161544 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 16 Nov 84 p 3

[Text] The World Bank and the government have been unable to agree on the relending rates that should be used for a \$100-million loan to be given by the bank for farm production. The World Bank wants the government to base the relending interest rates on the prevailing rates of commercial banks.

Government officials maintain that if such a policy will be adopted and with commercial rates nearly at 40 percent, no farmers will be able to avail themselves of the loan facility.

The World Bank's premise is that the agricultural sector will increase its efficiency under a free market system.

Also, the World Bank policy aims to align agricultural credit with those of the other sectors of the economy in order to encourage lending to agricultural enterprises. The government early this year changed its lending policy for agriculture by shifting from a fixed rate (12 percent for supervised credit and 14 percent for non-supervised credit) to a floating rate system.

It pegged agricultural loan rates to the Manila reference rate (MRR), the weighted average on interest rates paid by the 10 lending commercial banks on outstanding deposit substitutes. Used is the MRR 90 (the rate for 90 days borrowings), minus two percentage points.

Over the past months, however, MRR 90 has soared, and farmers have been discouraged from availing themselves of the loans. The policy has resulted in a virtual abolition of supervised credit. The World Bank says interest rates are high because the current economic situation is abnormal. It expects the rates to stabilize soon.

On the other hand, government financial authorities expect interest rates to start declining by the end of the next year yet and probably stabilize in 1986-1987.

Agriculture and Food Minister Salvador H. Escudero III said the government has proposed to the World Bank that the projected low interest rate -- somewhere near 20 percent -- be used for the \$100-million farm credit.

"It appears that the World Bank is considering the proposal," Escudero said, adding that the question on interest rates is the only issue in the talks on the loan. If approved, the loan is targeted for release by July next year, for the second planting of the crop year 1984-1985. It is intended to go mostly for rice and corn farming.

RAMOS SAYS PEACE TO BE PRESERVED IN ZAMBOANGA

HK161057 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos says steps are being taken to make sure that no violence takes place in Zamboanga Province. This is in connection with the recent assassination of Mayor Cesar Climaco. At a recent meeting with provincial officials, Gen Ramos said he will ensure that the aims of the peace-and-order council for maintaining peace in Zamboanga Province are fully supported.

Developments in Climaco Probe

HK180346 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 17 Nov 84

[Text] The task force investigating the murder of Mayor Cesar Climaco picked up five suspects yesterday [17 November] during a raid at little Tondo in (Semiro Interior) in Zamboanga City. Their identities were withheld. It was learned that a woman told police investigators that the five were at the scene [when the mayor] was gunned down last Wednesday.

The task force is looking into the possibility that two hired gunmen, one of them acting as decoy, fled from the crime scene in order to confuse witnesses and mislead pursuers. Southern Command Chief Major General Delfin Castro revealed this possibility because of the conflicting versions of witnesses about the killing and the description of the assassin. Some witnesses claimed to have seen the gunman running toward a grassy area of Governor Alvares Avenue. Other witnesses said the gunman was seen walking briskly away toward the western end of Governor Alvares Avenue in the opposite direction.

The Batasan ad hoc committee has started its own probe into the killing of Mayor Cesar Climaco. The committee is headed by Deputy Defense Minister Teodoro Natividad as chairman, with Members of Parliament Ramon Mitra and (Romeo Jalosos). Already in Zamboanga City is a team of the investigating committee, headed by Assistant Commissioner Alfredo Pagolayan of the National Police Commission.

In an interview, Commissioner Pagolayan said the committee will conduct its own investigation of the case. They will coordinate with the task force created by Acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos. However, Pagolayan said the Batasan probe body is independent of the task force.

Meanwhile, the United Nationalist Democratic Organization or UNIDO has created its own six-man special fact-finding body to look at and monitor the progress of the investigation of the killing. UNIDO President Salvador Laurel said the task force will be headed by Raul Gonzales and five other volunteer lawyers. He said this fact-finding body will be independent of the special task force organized by Gen Ramos. He said it will not only monitor the development in the investigation, but also countercheck it.

Gun Control Laws

HK170049 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] Acting AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos ordered military authorities in Zamboanga City to strictly enforce the government's firearms and explosives control law. Gen Ramos issued the order to top military commanders in Mindanao, led by Southern Command Chief Major General Delfin Castro. He said the control must be effected immediately in order that the residents will not feel threatened by the presence of so many gun-toting people who are not properly identified. Gen Ramos suggested that military and civilian volunteer patrols be formed in the city to check any resurgence of crime in the area. Gen Ramos emphasized that aside from a license to possess a firearm, the holder must get a special permit from the PC [Philippine Constabulary] to carry it outside his residence.

MARCOS ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF MASSACRE REPORT

NC181326 Paris AFP in English 1308 GMT 18 Nov 84

[Text] Manila, Nov 18 (AFP) -- President Ferdinand Marcos today ordered a probe into reports that Christian settlers in a southern Philippines village were massacred allegedly by Moslem secessionist rebels, the presidential palace said. The president said protection for both Moslem and Christian settlements in Mindanao Island must be stepped up to prevent possible reprisals.

The reports said a band of about 250 Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) guerrillas attacked the village of Wao, a predominantly Christian settlement in Lanao del Sur Province 800 kilometers (500 miles) south of here, killing a still undetermined number of Christian settlers.

National police chief Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos, who is also acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, in turn ordered the area regional military commander to submit a comprehensive report on the incident.

Mr. Marcos however cautioned that "effort must be exerted to distinguish between the legitimate secessionist rebels who continue to oppose the government on principles and those who have turned into ordinary bandits." Government policy is to attract back into the mainstream of national life the guerrillas who have been fighting for a separate Moslem state since 1972.

MARCOS DECLARES 14 TOWNS IN STATE OF CALAMITY

OW161347 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] In typhoon-ravaged areas of central Visayas President Marcos today placed 14 more towns in northern Cebu and western Samar under a state of calamity. These are the towns of Batayan, Madridejos in Santa Fe in Bantayan Island; Dayan, Bantayan, Bogo and Medellin in northern Cebu; and Marabut, Santa Rita, Talalora, Villareal, Zumarraga, Pinabacdao, San Sebastian, Calbiga, Daram in western Samar. These towns were declared as disaster areas due to the devastation brought by typhoon Undang on crops and infrastructure in Visayas, particularly in Bantayan Island.

AGRAVA TO ASSIST TANODBAYAN IN INVESTIGATION

HK160830 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 15 Nov 84

[Text] The chairman of the defunct fact-finding board, Corazon Juliano Agrava, yesterday [15 November] assured the tanodbayan of her assistance in the preliminary investigation of the Aquino assassination case, but she added her assistance would be only up to the conclusions of her report which declared as indictable a general and six soldiers in the Aquino-Galman double murder case. Agrava said her help would not be limited to the preliminary investigation alone but even up to the trial of the case before the sandiganbayan. She said however she could not extend her assistance beyond the coverage of her own report, which implicated Brigadier General Luther Custodio and six soldiers including Aquino's four security escorts in the conspiracy.

Meanwhile Tanodbayan Justice Bernardo Fernandez said yesterday the Agrava board and its legal panel were asked to assist the Tanodbayan's preliminary investigation of the Aquino assassination because the probe body's reports on the killings are conflicting and full of uncertainties. Reacting to a letter sent to the president by the board's General Counsel Andres Narvasa, Fernandez said the probe body and its lawyers had to be asked to help since it was the board and no other that had made an accusation thus far and no amount of legal coinage of words can conceal this fact. Narvasa has told the president he could not assist the tanodbayan in investigating the assassination of former Senator Aquino until it first reviews the evidence already gathered by the probe body, and a clarification is subsequently needed from the board. Narvasa also said that it seemed to him that the tanodbayan has not even read the two reports.

Fernandez said the Tanodbayan requested the board's help when in the course of its investigations requests were made by General Fabian Ver and Major General Prospero Olivas for a specification of the charges against them.

ENRILE URGES 'MORAL REARMAMENT' IN MILITARY

OW161405 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 16 Nov 84

[Text] There should be a continuing moral rearmament within the ranks of the Armed Forces and the Integrated National Police. Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile issued this call in a speech before the Supreme Council of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines at Camp Crame this morning. In a speech Enrile cited the need for those in the military and law enforcement services to have the faith, determination and resolve to attend to the pressing tasks of national unity, reconciliation and development. At the same time Enrile decried the recent assassination of the late Major Cesar Climaco of Zamboanga City as an assault on the tranquillity of national life.

LIBERAL PARTY APPROVES NEW 15-POINT PROGRAM

OW171937 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 17 Nov 84

[From the "Newswatch" program]

[Excerpt] The Liberal Party's [LP] Executive Committee has formally approved a new and comprehensive platform that contains a 15-point program for a provisional and representative government. The approval came during a special session of the LP Executive Committee this afternoon at the residence of Abraham Sarmiento in New Manila. The 15-point program was drafted by LP President Jovita Salonga and was recommended for approval by the party's Presidential Working Committee after an exhaustive review.

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